# The Literary Digest

A WEEKLY COMPENDIUM OF THE CONTEMPORANEOUS THOUGHT OF THE WORLD.

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## TOPICS OF THE DAY.

### ARBITRATION TREATY AND THE MONROE DOCTRINE.

OPPOSITION to immediate ratification of the Anglo-American arbitration treaty in the Senate is ostensibly based upon the contention that the "Monroe doctrine" is not clearly excluded. The Administration's view of the scope of the convention in this respect has been stated by Mr. Olney to the foreign relations committee. He says that the treaty does not include the arbitration of the Monroe doctrine and was so understood by this Government and Great Britain. The matters in dispute which come under the provisions of the convention, according to Mr. Olney, are such as might grow out of treaty rights or under international law; all questions relating to the foreign policy of either government were not intended to be included. Concerning the Nicaragua Canal, however, Mr. Olney is reported as saying to the foreign relations committee that "if Great Britain sought to make an issue on that subject, growing out of the terms of the existing Clayton-Bulwer treaty [originally forbidding exclusive control of communication across Nicaragua by either Great Britain or the United States] it would probably come within this general treaty, under the clause which provides for the settlement of disputes between the two governments arising 'under treaties or otherwise.'"

Mr. Olney's insistent claim that there is no ground for fear that the Monroe doctrine will be attacked under the treaty is thus reported in the press:

"It [the Monroe doctrine] had not been mentioned in the treaty, for to do so would have been impolitic and dangerous. The provisions of Article VI. relative to the method of procedure in territorial claims gave assurance that all the rights of this country in any dispute would be carefully guarded. That article stipulated that any award to be final must be made by a vote of not less than five to one in a court consisting of three American jurists and three English. It could not be conceived that two Americans would join the English side of the court on any question unless they were warranted in so doing by the facts and the presentation of the case before the court. A five-to-one award guaranteed absolute fairness and justice, and disarmed all the criticism that had been directed against the convention."

Ex-Senator Edmunds of Vermont, for many years a member of the judiciary committee, defends the treaty against criticisms in a letter to Provost Harrison of the University of Pennsylvania. He avows himself an intense supporter of the Monroe doctrine and a believer in the necessity of retaining the Nicaragua Canal under United States auspices; but he maintains that the careful language of the treaty does not commit this Government to arbitrate questions arising in connection with the Monroe doctrine:

"The words upon which the criticism is based are found in Article IV., as follows: 'All other matters in difference, in respect of which either of the high contracting parties shall have rights against the other under the treaty or otherwise.'

"What, then, are 'rights against the other?' In the theory of the municipal state and of all its autonomy the rights of one citizen against another are essentially and exclusively those things that the law of the state enjoins upon each in regard to the other. This is the whole definition. Precisely the same is true in international law and the centuries of intercourse between nations. This, I believe, all writers on natural law and international law agree in.

"To illustrate these propositions: I take it that the United States has no rights against Great Britain in regard to her operations in Abyssinia; nor would she have any rights against us if we were to attempt to share in the partition of Africa. In the case of Turkey, if we were to seize the whole of Asia Minor and establish peace and order there (as the British have done in substance in Egypt), we should have invaded no right of any power except Turkey. The same is, of course, true in respect of our relations and conduct with the states of the western hemisphere under the Monroe doctrine, or under any other policy that we may think it just to adopt.

"It was, then, the clear and perfectly understood distinction between the rights of one nation against another, and their interests and policies in regard to other nations, that doubtless led to a separate treaty in regard to the Venezuelan question; for both governments knew that the affair could not possibly come within the scope of the general treaty. You will see, therefore, that the phrase of the treaty whch is criticized is the most apt possible to mark the boundary of arbitration, and that it leaves the Monroe doctrine unaffected.

"The second objection is the fear that the treaty may affect our attitude in regard to the Nicaragua Canal, in which the interests of the United States are so deeply concerned. What I have already said disposes of that solicitude; I have not time to go into detail about it."

Press interpretations of the scope of the treaty differ widely:

**The Monroe Doctrine is Safe.**—"If Great Britain should encroach upon any American interest in such a way as to violate the spirit of the Monroe doctrine our Government would intervene, as in the Venezuela case. In that event it would be Great Britain that would have to appeal to the arbitration treaty for a settlement with the United States over our right of intervention; for manifestly our Government would not. To what article of that treaty, then, could Great Britain appeal as providing for such a dispute? If we had objected to her trying to grab territory, we could not be compelled to arbitrate our right of intervention according to the articles on 'territorial claims,' since our Government would

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not have made a territorial claim. All we should have done would have been to question the justice of her territorial claim against another power. And in that case the mere existence of an arbitration treaty between Great Britain and the United States, providing for the settlement of territorial disputes, when between themselves, would afford us a powerful argument for urging Great Britain to adopt the same method with the power in whose behalf we had intervened. If we had had such a treaty when the Venezuelan affair came to a crisis, we could have pointed to it as a proof that Great Britain had conceded the principle of arbitration in the matter of territorial claims; hence she should arbitrate with Venezuela."—*The Republican, Springfield.*

**The Doctrine under Arbitration.**—"Doctrines are not subject to arbitration; cases of their application may, however, be arbitrated. It is a well-established doctrine, for instance, that treaties shall be observed and not evaded or violated. You can not imagine two governments going before a tribunal to assert opposite sides of that proposition. One government might assert that a treaty had been violated and the other deny it, and then the facts could be arbitrated and the action required by the facts might be determined. In the same way it might be disputed whether a treaty still existed or had lapsed, or had been duly accepted by one party or the other. So cases arising under the Monroe doctrine might go before a tribunal of arbitration to determine whether the doctrine had been violated, or even whether Great Britain had accepted the doctrine. In either case no result would be reached unless three British arbitrators and two Americans agreed in the decision. Is it conceivable under these conditions that the doctrine would suffer? This is the sum of what Mr. Olney told the Senate committee on foreign relations.

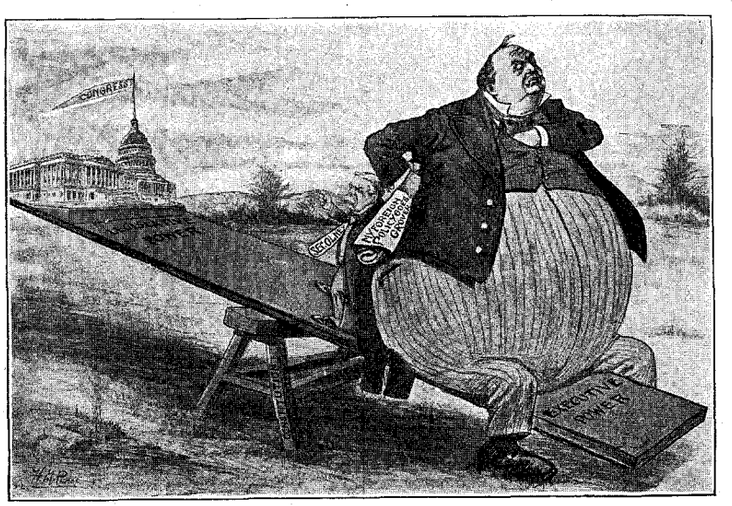
"Moreover, what do Senators who affect to have fears on this subject really suppose that the doctrine requires? By far the boldest statement of the doctrine ever made by the United States Government was made in 1895 by the present Administration. What was that statement? In substance it was simply this: In a dispute between a European power and an American state, involving the territorial integrity of the latter, the European power shall not decide the dispute for itself, but shall submit its claims to impartial arbitration. In other words, the extremest, firmest, and most sweeping declaration of the Monroe doctrine known to our history was a declaration demanding the very arbitration provided for in the treaty now before the Senate."—*The Times, New York.*

**"Mr. Olney's Blind Pool."**—"There is nothing more than an 'understanding,' alleged by him to exist between himself and the negotiators on the part of Great Britain, that the Monroe doctrine, and questions growing out of that indispensable feature of American policy, do not come within the treaty's reach. One account of the meeting [of Secretary Olney and the foreign relations committee] represents Mr. Olney as making an evasive reply to Senator Lodge's question why, if that be true, the Monroe doctrine should not be excluded in specific and precise terms. He answered that in his opinion specific mention of the Monroe doctrine was neither necessary nor desirable; that to have mentioned it in the treaty would have been 'impolitic and dangerous.' And yet he went on, as all reports agree, to argue that should Monroe-doctrine questions come under arbitration, we have nothing to fear, owing to the manner in which the tribunal will be constituted. All this indicates either that Mr. Olney is not sure what the effect of the treaty would be with regard to the Monroe doctrine, or that, if he knows, he is unwilling to tell the Senate committee on foreign relations; and this evasion of an all-important particular is far from reassuring.

"The second point of great interest was the definite admission that if Great Britain sought to make an issue of American control of the Nicaragua Canal, and should bring up the obsolete Clayton-Bulwer treaty as an obstacle to our proceedings, that matter would 'probably' have to go to arbitration under the clause of the Olney-Pauncefote convention, which provides for the settlement of disputes arising 'under treaties or otherwise.' Here Mr. Olney talked as if he knew that he was giving away American interests.

"The third point concerns this phrase, 'or otherwise.' What questions between this nation and Great Britain, not arising under treaty relations, are included in the 'or otherwise'? Mr. Olney is said to have explained that questions under international law are meant. If Mr. Edward J. Phelps, a better international lawyer than the Secretary of State, had been present, he would have made it clear to the Senators, as he has made it clear to all readers of the article on arbitration to which we referred the other day [issue of January 20, quoting from *The Atlantic Monthly* six months previous] that Mr. Olney's answer was rubbish. Arbitration is not applicable to cases involving questions of international law. If the questions are old and settled, no tribunal is needed to decide them. If they are new and unsettled, no tribunal is competent to decide them, inasmuch as the representatives of two nations can not make international law. 'No rule of law,' says Mr. Phelps, 'can be adopted by such a court unless it can be shown to have been previously acquiesced in; and arbitration can be useful in no case depending upon a question of international law, except in those cases in which it will be unnecessary, since the point involved will have been already settled.'

"There is a growing impression among good Americans who are not carried away by sentimental impulses, that where this proposed treaty is not mere humbug it is highly dangerous to vital American interests, and where it is not positively dangerous it is mere humbug."—*The Sun, New York.*




THE BALANCES OF THE CONSTITUTION.

Mr. Cleveland's opinion of the relative weight of the Executive and Legislative powers on foreign questions, as stated by Mr. Olney. [N. B.—*This opinion is good for —— days only.*] —*The Tribune, New York.*

## WAR OF THE SUGAR AND COFFEE TRUSTS.

A FIGHT is on for industrial supremacy between the aggregations of organized capital known as the sugar trust and the Arbuckles. Such a war is a matter of immediate public concern, to say nothing of economic significance. We give two editorial accounts of the fight, the first alleging that the public benefits by it, the second denying this.

The Chicago *Chronicle* thinks that the story of the war shows that "even trusts get into competition, and that their war makes cheaper prices for the people":

"The coffee trust, represented by the Arbuckles, originated the scheme of selling coffee in one- or two-pound packages or in packages of greater weight, already prepared for customers at the grocery counter. The plan gave the customer full weight; his purchase was ready on demand, and he lost no time by the delay of the grocer in weighing out his purchase. The Arbuckles had procured machinery, invented and constructed for the purpose, working automatically, by which coffee and spices were turned out from the hoppers in their mills after the grinding process, weighed in small packages, dumped into paper bags, and sealed up for delivery at the grocers' counters to purchasers. This system worked so well as to coffee and spices that the Arbuckles bought vast quantities of sugar that was weighed by their automatic process and placed in sacks of various capacity to be deliv-

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ered by grocers selling both coffee and sugar. This trade of the Arbuckles became enormous in amount. They were selling in this way to their own customers for coffee and spices a large proportion of the output of the sugar trust. They sold sugar at retail at very near the barrel-rate prices.

"The Arbuckles then demanded a rebate from the sugar trust's wholesale prices. They were handling so large a proportion of the sugar-trust's output that they wanted to buy at less than wholesale prices. The sugar trust refused to make the rebate. The Arbuckles then, having nearly as much capital as the sugar trust, determined to go into the business of refining sugar. They bought up a half-dozen independent refineries and began to sell all grades of sugar at lower than trust rates. The trust met the cut. Other cuts were made, which were met on both sides. The result is that the people have been buying sugar for the last few weeks at from half a cent to a cent a pound below all previous rates. Then the sugar trust had its inning. The coffee and spice works of a firm at Toledo were purchased and the sugar trust began to cut prices on coffee. [The Arbuckles secretly secured stock in the firm (Woolson Spice Company) and have applied for a receivership on the ground that the sugar trust is ruining the business.—ED. LITERARY DIGEST.] The Arbuckles met this cut, and lower prices for coffee at retail have resulted.

"So with the sugar trust operating coffee mills and the coffee trust operating sugar refineries, the competition has produced lower prices for the prime elements of an enjoyable breakfast table. Of course, the quarrel will be arranged and previous prices restored. But the public has had the benefit of reduced prices during the progress of the fight."

The Hartford *Courant* points a very different moral to the story:

"The Arbuckles, big dealers in ground coffee, spices, etc., understood to be millionaires on a large scale, have decided to go into the sugar-refining business. The sugar trust, however, known as the American Sugar-Refining Company, doesn't propose to have anybody else in that field. It controls the business and is supposed to fear only Congress, which could hamper it. Perhaps that fear isn't very serious. It will be remembered that a certain broker declined to tell an investigating committee what members of Congress were speculating in sugar through his house. The route from the Capitol to Wall Street and the sugar offices is not circuitous.

"When the sugar trust found the Arbuckles were in earnest in their wicked scheme of going into sugar-refining, they, the sugar people, bought the control of a large spice company in Toledo, and started in to smash the Arbuckles. Coffee has risen, but the sugar people, through the Woolson Company, are selling roasted coffee two and a half cents a pound lower than before the market began to rise. This is said to mean a loss of $1,000 a day. As the Arbuckles do their own coffee-importing, all the little folks, who roast and grind coffee, have to sweat, and, as these are the customers of the importers of green coffee, against the Arbuckles who import their own, that importing trade is in trouble, too.

"To finish the story, it is given out that after the sugar trust has broken the Arbuckles, then the coffee-roasting industry will be turned over to them as the price of peace. The trust is after several other roasting plants, and it is expected that when, after exhausting war, a settlement is effected, all these kindred concerns will be handed over to the Arbuckles as the price of peace, and then the little grinders and roasters will be in the hands of the Arbuckles, who can roast them.

"And there are intelligent people who say these things are benefits! What is the fluctuation of a cent or two a pound on coffee? It may mean cheaper food for a time, but it means also the extinction of independence in trade, the disappearance of the small trader, the wiping out of ambition and enterprise. People who are pushing this sort of thing are cutting down the very tree in which they are perched and are preparing for a grand smash. The country will not always be ready in a docile way to ask which millionaire it sides with. More likely, far, it is to ask why millionaires are at all."

---

CAPTAIN CHAPMAN seems to be the only New York policeman on record who ever arrived too early.—*The Times-Herald, Chicago.*

## GODKIN ON TENDENCIES OF DEMOCRACY.

IN an extended comparison of modern democracy with its ancient prototypes, E. L. Godkin (*Atlantic Monthly*, February) lays stress upon the modern indifference to distinction, as a mark of decadence. The Greek and Roman democracies were small and composed of a selected body whose principal occupation was politics. "They seem to have insisted not upon the right of filling offices with anybody they pleased, but the right of filling them with their most competent men." They were obliged to do so to hold their own among warring nations. The modern democracies are very large, the social and industrial conditions complex, and the writer designates the great defect in them as "disregard of special fitness, combined with unwillingness to acknowledge that there can be anything special about any man," which defect, he thinks, is "born of equality":

"That large communities can be successfully administered by inferior men is a doctrine which runs directly counter not only to the experience of the race, but to the order appointed for the advance of civilization, which has been carried forward almost exclusively by the labor of the fittest, despite the resistance or reluctance of the unfit."

Mr. Godkin asserts that in private affairs competency on the part of administrators is the first thing sought for, and the only thing trusted. The penalty of any disregard of this rule in private affairs comes quickly, but in public affairs the operation of all causes is much slower and their action is obscure:

"Nations take centuries to fall, and the catastrophe is preceded by a long period of the process called 'bad government,' in which there is much suffering and alarm, but not enough to make the remedy plain. France furnishes the best modern illustration of this rule. The causes of the Revolution undoubtedly began to operate at the majority of Louis XIV., but for over one hundred years their nature and certain results were not perceived, in spite of the great popular suffering which prevailed during the whole period.

"The worst of the slowness of this decadence is that it affects national character to a degree which makes recovery more difficult, even after the origin and nature of the disease have become plain. Men soon get accustomed to the evils of their condition, particularly if there is nobody in particular to blame. The inaction or negligence or shortcomings of great numbers assume the appearance of a law of nature or of repeated failures, of attempts at the impossible. The apparent difficulty of reform, except by catastrophe or revolution, begets either despondency or overcheerfulness."

The government of our social-economic world needs an increase in intellectual equipment corresponding to the increase in business, but, writes Mr. Godkin,

"The really alarming feature connected with the growth of democracy is that it does not seem to make adequate provision for the government of this new world. Its chief function, like the chief function of the monarch whom it has succeeded, is to fill offices. This is the chief function of the sovereign power everywhere, no matter by what name it is called. To find the right men for the public places is almost the only work which falls, or has ever fallen, to the ruler. It is by the manner in which this is done, more than by the laws which are passed, that the goodness or badness of a government is tested. If the functionaries are honest and faithful, almost any kind of political constitution is endurable. If they are ignorant or tyrannical or corrupt, the best constitution is worthless."

With offices necessarily multiplied, and placed within reach of the multitude, even the poor and lowly born, democratic opinion grows in favor of increasing the offices, the tradition of office-holding as a mark of some superiority assisting in the process. Of the troublesome tendencies under this *régime*, Mr. Godkin writes in part as follows:

"To preserve for the democratic government the old respect and authority which used to surround the monarchical government, it was absolutely necessary to compete vigorously, through both

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money and honors, in the labor market, with private business, the demands of which on the community's store of talent became very great as soon as steam and electricity were brought into the service of commerce and manufactures. But the tendency has not run in this direction. As regards the lower offices, the duties of which are easily comprehensible by everybody, and are merely matters of routine, in which discretion or judgment plays little part, there has been in this country a decided return to the tests of ordinary business, such as character and competency, and a decided revival of confidence in such motives as security of tenure and the prospect of promotion. But as regards the higher or elective offices, such as those of legislators and governors, the tendency to discredit such qualifications as education and special experience has been marked. In the popular mind there is what may be called a disposition to believe not only that one man is as good as another, but that he knows as much on any matter of general interest. In any particular business the superiority of the man who has long followed it is freely acknowledged, but in public affairs this is not perhaps so much denied as disregarded. One of the most curious characteristics of the silver movement was the general refusal to accept the experience of any country or age as instructive, and this in a matter in which all light comes from experience. . . .

"All the great modern democracies have to contend almost for existence against the popular disposition to treat elective offices as representative, and to consider it of more importance that they should be filled by persons holding certain opinions or shades of opinion than by persons most competent to perform their duties. The distinction between representing and administering seems plain enough, and yet, since the French Revolution, the democratic tendency has been everywhere to obscure it. This has not unnaturally led to the idea that the offices are rewards for the persons who have done most to propagate or defend certain views, and ought to be given to them independently of their fitness. To this confusion of two different functions I must ascribe the deterioration which has been remarked so frequently in the legislatures of all democratic countries in modern times. The number of men of experience or special knowledge, as well as of conspicuous men, which they contain, seems to decline steadily, and the number of interests committed to their charge as steadily to increase."

## FRANCIS A. WALKER'S ATTITUDE TOWARD FREE SILVER.

THE late Francis A. Walker incurred the criticism of both gold-standard advocates and the partizans of free silver, the former for his bimetallic views and the latter for his avowed opposition to independent free coinage. What his real position was, we think, has not been so plainly revealed as in a letter written last September to a well-known advocate of free coinage in New York city and now for the first time published in *The Outlook*, January 16:

"I can not agree with you in your views regarding action by the United States alone in the free coinage of silver. I deeply feel all that you say regarding the wrong and injury which the world has suffered from the effects of demonetization; but I believe that any attempt at national action will simply make matters worse. In my humble judgment, if we should undertake free coinage, we should speedily come to silver monometalism.

"Are you not, as is the case with most of us, insensibly influenced by the feeling that, if there is, anywhere in the universe, a wrong, there must be some way of righting it? So, in the olden time, people used to say that 'nature abhorred a vacuum'; but it was found that nature only abhorred a vacuum of about thirty-three feet in the case of water, and of about as many inches in the case of mercury. To-day most minds are greatly influenced by the idea that the moral universe abhors a wrong, in the sense that, if a wrong exists, there must be at hand the means of righting it. In the present case, people ask you if there is any other way of remedying the injustice done by demonetization; and, if you can not show such a way, then they appear to think that action by the United States alone is thereby proved to be justified. For myself, I have to believe that wrongs may exist and persist, in this universe of ours, without our being able to attack them *directly*, except at the risk of doing more harm than good. If the proposition of the silver men were founded upon a rising scale, coining, say, at 25 to 1, and then at 20 to 1, and finally at 16 to 1, I should be disposed to think that the possibly evil consequences would be much mitigated, even if the chances of ultimate success were not greatly increased.

"I am sorry to differ so widely from you on any economic question, as I have great confidence, not only in your right feeling, but in your right thinking, in general. But I can see no other prospect before us, if Bryan should be elected, than a panic, to start with, which would wreck both the commercial and industrial system on the track, involving a horrible waste of wealth and labor; and, in the final outcome, silver monometalism.

"Very truly yours,

"FRANCIS A. WALKER."

## MORE GUBERNATORIAL IDEAS OF REFORM.

CONSIDERABLE importance attaches to the character of suggestions made to legislatures by the governors of various States, as showing the temper of different sections and the trend of legislative experiment. Supplementing a group of gubernatorial suggestions in THE LITERARY DIGEST, January 16, we make the following additional quotations from governors' messages:

**To Escape Railroad Extortion.**—John W. Leedy, the new Populist governor of Kansas, at the head of a complete fusion administration of the State, feels called upon to resent press criticisms of his State. But probably the most striking recommendation he makes is that the State take the initiative in building a railroad to the seaboard in order to escape railroad extortion:

"The question of the regulation of transportation companies has been one that has commanded the attention of the legislatures of the various States since railroads were first introduced. These corporations have received their charter rights from the various States, and these States naturally concluded that they had the right to regulate and control the corporations that they thus had created. This view of the case was constantly combated by the corporations, who claimed, as they were private corporations, they were not subject to state legislation so far as their charges were concerned, a view they have not yet abandoned. When, however, Congress, eleven years ago, created that subterfuge for justice called the Interstate Commerce Commission, it enacted legislation that was supposed by the people to be for the purpose of securing their rights and controlling these corporations. After eleven years of weary waiting, the people are now told by this commission that the law under which they were acting was defective and had been held by the court of last resort as inoperative and unconstitutional. Thus after fifty years of effort in this direction, we find that practically nothing has been done toward the control of corporations. I recommend that the legislature pass a maximum freight law that will be fair to corporations and just to the people. I believe also that the board of railroad commissioners should be clearly vested with the powers of a court, and given the power to adjust fares and freight within the State of Kansas as they may deem just, and not exceeding the maximum rate, and that their powers shall be made definite and certain, but subject to appeal to the supreme court of the State. In doing this, I think the legislature should not proceed in any spirit of retaliation or revenge for the misdeeds of the corporations in the past, but they should make their purpose clear to these corporations that, in the future, the interests of the citizens of this State are to be taken into account as well as the welfare of the corporations, and that profits in good times and losses in bad ones are to be equally shared between them.

"I advise the people of the State of Kansas to seek for justice out of court. In doing so, I can only point to one route by which it can be obtained, and that is for the States west of the Mississippi River to build a road of their own to tide-water by the shortest and most direct route, which will put them in a position to command the situation without getting into any complication with the railroad companies or with the federal courts. We have at Galveston, now, a harbor that can be entered safely by the largest ships. The Federal Government has expended $6,000,000 in creating an outlet in Galveston Bay and providing a safe harbor for a terminal point. In order to get to this harbor, there are no mountains to tunnel and no large rivers to cross and no engineering difficulties in the way. It is practically a plain upon which a road can not only be built, but can be operated as cheaply as anywhere in the world. At the present value of labor and material, a road can be built for from $6,000 to $10,000 a mile, and it would be as unjust to the people of this generation to ask them to support a railroad bonded at $50,000 a mile, as it would have been to the people of a preceding generation to haul their

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grain and merchandise on the turnpike of that time after they had been paralleled by railroads.

"If the States of Texas and Nebraska would join us in the building of a line to Galveston, the expense of building such a road would be merely nominal when compared with the vast sums of money that would be saved to the citizens of these States through the lowering of freight rates; in fact, the overcharge above what is reasonable and fair on grain upon the crop now existing in the State of Kansas would pay all the charges of completing such a road, were the State of Kansas to undertake it herself. Such a road, when completed, would place the people of this State in a position of independence in the matter of transportation so far as the railroad companies and the federal courts were concerned, and I do not believe that such a move would be injurious to the railroad companies in the long run."

**Promotion of State Industries.**—Heber M. Wells, the Republican governor of the new State of Utah, who enjoys the distinction of being the only governor whose term of office lasts five years, gives this *résumé* of Utah's industrial condition and policy:

"It is gratifying that after the severe trials of the past four years, consequent upon the reversal of national policies which previously had fostered the chief industries of the Rocky Mountain region, Utah, by reason of her marvelous resources and the wonderful conservatism of her people, emerges from the general havoc with less disaster to her business interests, less shrinkage of values and greater general prosperity than any of her sister States. Indeed, it may be truly said that during the past year this State has made material advancement, especially in her mineral industry. Altho few of the silver-mines and prospects have been able to survive the battle waged against the white metal by the allied money powers of two worlds, the yield of the old and well-equipped silver-mines of the State has materially increased, and gold-mining, which meantime has taken on new life, has nearly doubled its product. The people since Statehood, confident of the inherent strength of resources of their great commonwealth, and hopeful of the future, have maintained a patient, law-abiding citizenship, which has done credit to their loyalty and preserved the honor, peace, and security of the State. The crops have never been more prolific, and prices, tho still ruinous because of the demonetization of silver, ranged toward the end of the year slightly higher, enabling many of the farmers to market their products. The yield of the sugar factory was the greatest in its history, being above 9,000,000 pounds, and the promoters of this splendid enterprise, and the people generally, may congratulate themselves that one half of the granulated sugar consumed in the State is produced at home. The Rio Grande Western Railway, with commendable enterprise, has extended its line forty miles farther to the south; the reorganization of the Oregon Short Line, now being effected in this city, promises increased advantages to the State, and the great projected lines to the south and west, upon which our future greatness has hung so long, promise immediate inception in the spring. Two of our great mountain streams have been harnessed during the year, and the electrical power generated by these enormous and costly plants is available at minimum cost to turn the wheels of our future progress. The silk industry, to which Utah is so well adapted, under the encouragement of a small bounty provided by the last leigslature, began to breathe during the year, and if the present policy is continued, there is no doubt but that the thousand pounds of cocoons produced last year will soon be followed by the manufacture of raw silk. I urge upon you the importance of doing everything in our power to encourage the growth and development of our various industries. It is what we produce, not what we borrow or import, that will make us independent. Notwithstanding evidences are apparent of an awakening in this respect, the industrial activity of the State is yet far from what it should be. It is well understood that those three great industries of the State, silver, lead, and wool, are languishing because of hope of Congressional legislation long deferred. If you should deem it appropriate to memorialize Congress to restore silver to the coinage, and lead and wool to the former tariff, it will be a pleasure to me to cooperate with you."

**Money-Lender and Borrower.**—Gov. Daniel W. Jones (Dem.), of Arkansas, seeks the establishment of a state railroad commission, because no "power above the law" can be tolerated. He also suggests the employment of convicts in the construction of railroads to be operated or leased by the State. We quote, however, from his recommendations concerning money and interest, aside from the suggested prevention of future gold contracts:

"Section 13, Article 19, of the constitution provides that 'all contracts for a greater rate of interest than 10 per centum per annum shall be void, as to principal and interest, and the General Assembly shall prohibit the same by law; but when no rate of interest is agreed upon the rate shall be 6 per centum per annum.' I recommend that an amendment be submitted to the people revoking this section and providing that no contract for a greater rate of interest than 6 per centum per annum, made after the adoption of this amendment, shall be enforced by any court in this State, and that this shall apply to all contracts thereafter made in this State regardless of the place of payment, and that all laws of the State upon the subject of usury shall thereafter be without force or effect.

"Our State is eminently an agricultural one. The farmer is our principal wealth-producer. Upon his prosperity depends that of the State. Our legislation should be directed and shaped in his interest, and no law of the State should be continued in force when found to be detrimental to him. Like other business men he must sometimes borrow money to carry on his operations, and he should not be required to pay a rate of interest which leaves no margin for profit to himself. No agricultural industry can afford to pay more than 6 per cent. for the use of money. In fact, that is the limit of the value of money for any legitimate business in our State, and no greater rate ought to be allowed to be contracted for. The borrower being thus protected, the lender should have equal protection. He ought, in all equity and good conscience, to have the protection of the laws to recover back his money with interest not exceeding this lawful rate. Usury laws, such as we have, whereby the lender loses not only his interest, but his money also, are unjust and unreasonable. Moreover, they invite perjury and are demoralizing and corrupting in their tendency. The very fact of their existence renders it difficult to lower the rate of interest, because of the extra hazard incurred in lending money. . . .

"There are honest men who do not agree with me, but they will be found chiefly among the money-lenders. They can, however, take care of themselves, having the means to do so. But legislation of this character is intended to protect those whose necessities require the borrowing of money for the purposes of carrying on legitimate business pursuits, and who are, on that account, subjected to the cupidity of avarice. The money-lender is a useful citizen, but he adds nothing to the material wealth of the country. He ought to be content with a reasonable accretion to his surplus in the way of interest, especially when the laws are such as to make that certain to him. But a money-borrower in an agricultural community like ours is a wealth-producer, and he should be the favored one of the law, at least to the extent of being protected against having to pay unreasonable interest upon the money he must borrow to produce that wealth.

"Instead of driving money out of the State, as some may contend, I believe it will have the opposite effect. But whether the one or the other effect is produced, I am quite certain that it is not to the interest of our people to pay more than 6 per cent. for the use of money, and that their interests will be best subserved by keeping out of the State all money which is of greater value than this."

**State Liquor Dispensary.**—The feature of the message of the new Democratic governor of South Carolina, W. H. Ellerbee, is his defense of the dispensary system, from which we quote:

"I have arrived at my present conclusion in regard to it somewhat against my will. The opinion reached by me after a thorough investigation of its working throughout the State, and after having the views of a good many intelligent and good men, is that the law is a great improvement over the old license system and that it deserves to be fully tried in its present form before there is any radical change made. The proof is overwhelming that there is less drunkenness now than formerly, and that the consumption of liquor has been largely decreased. This is acknowledged by every fair-minded man, and that the masses of the people are averse to returning to the license system in any form is very evident to any man who has mingled with them. Having stated my opinion as to the policy the State should pursue, I feel it my duty to enter at some length on the workings and merits of the law, and point out the severe tests to which it has been subjected. It is not saying too much to assert that it has never had a fair chance. Enacted during a period of intense political activity, when prejudice and party spirit were running high, it was opposed by many on political grounds purely without consideration of its purpose or merit, and every possible obstruction thrown in its way. The federal courts, by injunctions, have crippled its enforcement seriously. After the Darlington trouble had been quieted the decision of the Supreme Court declaring the law unconstitutional came to undo all the work that had been done. While it demonstrated the utter futility of prohibition, it at the same time initiated the sale of liquor without license in every neighborhood, and many who then began the nefarious traffic have never ceased to follow it, and are still selling liquor as much as they dare.

"Of what use is it to argue that the State should not sell liquor to its citizens or reap a profit from the 'blood money,' as some term it, when they advocate licensing its sale and thus sharing in the profits made by the private dealer? One system is just as immoral as the other, if there is immorality in either. But the monopoly of the sale by the State enables it to control in a measure and minimize the evil, and the profits, which are but of secondary consideration to the State, are shared by all the people. On the other hand, the licensing of its sale to private parties would create a monopoly just as certainly as the existing one—a private

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monopoly, which has never been and never will be controlled by law, and the profits which then become the paramount object are shared by the State and the barkeeper. . . . There are no 'back-stairs' or 'side doors' to the dispensaries, but there never was a barroom which did not sell liquor on the sly on public occasions when the law required it to be closed. The dispensaries are open only in the daytime, and when ordered to be closed, as on circus days and during fair week in Columbia, they were closed, and but few drunken men could be found in the city, tho the crowd was immense. The State can afford to lose the profit on such occasions, but under no system of license has it ever been possible to shut the bars. Private greed is not to be thus controlled, and herein lies the great merit of the system. Then the closing of the dispensaries at night and the destruction of treating by forbidding the sealed packages being opened on the premises—these three features are the ones which make the dispensary law popular in spite of 'shortages' in dispensers' accounts and 'rebates,' whether real or imaginary. Let us try then to perfect the system and punish dishonest dispensers, rather than try the old plan, which we know is less conducive to sobriety and good morals. . . . My experience in the controller-general's office satisfies me that the business can be conducted in such a way as to prevent stealing or detect and punish it if the dispensers or other officers connected with the dispensary attempt it. There is no reason why such checks and safeguards can not be devised as will protect the State's interest as thoroughly as in the collection and disbursement of taxes and other public money. The dispensary has become a part of the fixed policy of the State, and as long as our present constitution remains intact it is the duty of the governor to see that the laws governing it are enforced, and it is the duty of all law-abiding citizens to labor for the same end, or at least to submit to the provisions of the law. I believe the dispensary comes nearer to the solution of the liquor problem than any other scheme yet proposed by man."

## TOLSTOÏ SEES THE END OF WAR AT HAND.

IN the reasons given by a Hollander, named Van der Weer, for refusing to join the national army last year, Tolstoï discovers "the little drop at work undermining the proud fabric of military despotism." Van der Weer resisted the conscription laws, says Tolstoï, on the ground that these laws are contrary to the universal reason and conscience of man. "The reason of the human race is developing," Tolstoï says, "and the power of error grows weaker day by day." He continues:

"The immorality of militarism (like that of American and Russian slavery in the sixties) is so clear and manifest that its destruction is only a matter of time. As was the case with slavery, it is only human inertia that keeps militarism on its legs. The little drop is at work, and the little drop of water has been known to bore through strong dikes and undermine houses and cities. . . . When the number of Van der Weer's imitators increases, we shall find that those who yesterday were the defenders of militarism will to-morrow change their tone and proclaim in a loud voice that war is the fruit of ignorance and immoral in its essence. When that comes to pass armies will speedily disappear and leave behind them nothing but a poor memory. That consummation is now not far distant."

The text of Van der Weer's letter of refusal and Tolstoï's comments thereon we find in the English edition (*The Far East*) of the Japanese review, *Kokumin-no-Tomo*. The translation was first made from the Count's letter to the editor (in Russian) into Japanese, and afterward from the Japanese into English. Van der Weer begins his letter, declining to appear for enrolment according to law, by quoting "Thou shalt not kill." "Conscious of the rightfulness of my position," he writes, "I do not hesitate to put myself into opposition to the law of the country." He continues:

"I do not make any special profession of Christianity, nor claim to be any better than the generality of Christians, but I understand that the commandment which I have placed at the head of this letter is one that is agreeable to the reason and nature of man. I renounce the military profession, which from a boy I have learned to consider as the science of murder. I abhor the idea of killing men in obedience to orders, without having any desire or cause for doing so—a proceeding against which my conscience revolts. There is not to my mind, a meaner thing in the world than to take up the profession of killing and wounding one's fellow creatures. I have even become a vegetarian, so great is my repugnance to taking life in any form; and now, should I be obliged to turn soldier, I should be compelled, in obedience to orders, to shoot my inoffensive fellow men; for I know that a soldier is not taught to handle a gun merely with a view of practising upon the leaves and branches of trees.

"You will perhaps reply that a national army is necessary for the preservation of national order. Sir! I do not wish to preserve the existing order of things. If society were well-ordered, in other words, if society were in a healthy condition, without any injustice in it; if it were impossible for one man to be rolling in luxury while his neighbor is in want of bread, then society would preserve itself.

"As things are now, what reason have we for killing each other? Do you not know, sir, that the army exists quite as much for the purpose of protecting the rich from the lawful claims of the poor, as for preserving order in the state? A few days ago there was a riot in Rotterdam, and, as you know, the national army was unlawfully used to protect the property of the capitalists against the threats of their laborers. Can it be for one moment maintained that it was reasonable to murder the workingmen for asserting their own rights, and to employ the army for upholding those men who for their own purposes are striving to increase the enmity between labor and capital? Were you so blinded that you could not see the great principles involved in this dispute? Was it necessary for you to complicate the matter still more? Have you any further reason for wishing me to become a soldier than simply out of deference to the law?

"For the above reasons, and especially because I detest committing murder in obedience to orders, I deliberately refuse to be enrolled as a soldier of the national army. You need not therefore trouble to send me uniform or arms, as I am resolved that under no circumstances will I submit to military service. May God bless you. J. L. VAN DER WEER."

Count Tolstoï considers this letter of the deepest significance, because the action is based on grounds which can be maintained by all alike, irrespective of creed or nationality, Christian, Mohammedan, or Buddhist, Arabian or Japanese—all, as men, may unite in this common resistance. "True" Christians, Tolstoï maintains, altho a minority in Christendom, always resist conscription, "for it is evident that any one who humbly tries to carry out the precepts which teach us to resist evil, and to love our neighbors and our enemies alike, must refuse to become a soldier, that is, a murderer of his brethren." But he points out that "Van der Weer resisted, not because there was a commandment 'Thou shalt not kill,' nor yet because he was a Christian, but because murder is contrary to human reason. . . . He abhorred taking life, he tells us, and therefore became a vegetarian. And his reason for refusing military service was that it was inconsistent with the dignity of man to commit murder in obedience to the orders of a superior. . . . Those who refuse to accept his

GROVER IN A NEW POSE.
—*The Post, Cincinnati.*

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conclusions must alter their premises and say 'I do not believe murder to be contrary to human nature, and therefore I have no objection to taking the oaths of military service.' . . . There are, in every nation and in every religion, men who, on principle, dislike military service and detest war; and their number is increasing day by day. For these men no argument is strong enough to destroy the deeply rooted prejudice that it is a bad thing to be the slave of a man who aims at committing murder."

The dictates of conscience in Tolstoï's view are not to be disobeyed, no matter what the personal consequences. We quote further:

"Van der Weer makes no special profession of Christianity, but his course of action in this matter is wholly based on Christian principles. He was opposed to murder, therefore he refused to become a soldier; he did not claim any superhuman authority for the dictates of his conscience. From this point of view his action is significant. Christianity is not a sect which some men acknowledge and some not, but it is the light of truth that enlightens the whole human race; it is worthy of acceptance, not for its special rules and institutions, but because it declares the way for all mankind to walk in. When a man acts well and reasonably he is walking in the way of Christ's commandments. The divine law of eighteen hundred years ago has become the recognized human law of to-day. In this lies the significance of Van der Weer's action.

"Truth is like a fierce forest fire; it does not rest till it has consumed all the dry wood and withered grass of error around it. It is a fire which smolders long until it flares out, and then consumes everything in its path. A truth, not yet expressed in words, may smolder for long in the minds of men; when it flames forth in words the opposing error and evil vanish in a moment.

"Christianity brought into the world the truth that man can exist without having slaves. Ths truth, clearly contained in the original teachings of Christ, was yet not brought out till the latter part of the eighteenth century. We know that famous sages of old, Plato and Aristotle, modern thinkers, Christian writers—none of them dreamed of a human society existing without tyranny. Sir Thomas More did not believe in the possibility of his own Utopia. At the beginning of the present century, men could not think of humanity apart from war. It was not till after the Napoleonic wars that the thought took shape that mankind might perhaps manage to exist without fighting, just as, about the same time, the discovery was made that perhaps he might be able to live without slaves. To-day there are no more slaves in Christendom; and we are living in expectation of the time when there will be no more fighting. We look for an emancipation of soldiers as well as of slaves; and even tho armies and warfare should not be destined to disappear at once, we shall yet maintain that war is doomed, because it is contrary to reason and morality.

"There are many signs that the time is at hand. The difficulties into which all nations are plunged by military emulation, the increase of taxation, the discontent of the peoples, the wonderful improvements in the construction of murderous weapons, the combinations of diplomacy, the organization of peace societies, the increasing dislike of military service—what are these but the signs of an approaching abolition of armies? Of all these signs the resistance to conscription laws is the most significant.

"But again I hear an objection. If the army be abolished, what protection will a nation have against foreign foes? I admit the force of this objection; but even in this case I should still refuse to obey the command to commit murder. If the army is necessary for external protection, it needs a complete reorganization. Remodel the army so as to make it square with the dictates of conscience, and then I will argue with you about it."

## PRESENT DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE frequent claim that there is a strong tendency toward the concentration of wealth is sustained in a scholarly book, recently published under the title quoted above, by Dr. Charles B. Spahr. The work challenges many of the dicta of writers on economics who deny that rapid concentration is taking place, and Mr. Spahr's conclusions, drawn from statistics and facts in European countries and in the United States, are extremely suggestive. It is noteworthy that the author, a lecturer of the Columbia University School of Political Science, prefaces his volume with an expression of belief that "social statistics are only trustworthy when they show to the world at large what common observation shows to those personally familiar with the conditions described." He asserts, to begin with, that the tendency toward concentration of wealth "has had nothing of the nature of natural law":

"There is no more evidence of an 'iron law of wages' keeping the laborer down to an 'existence minimum' than there is of a pampering providence reducing the wages of capital and increasing the wages of labor, no matter what the endeavor of capitalists or the listlessness of laborers. The distribution of wealth is under the direct control of laws for which the national conscience is responsible; and the distribution of wealth has become better or worse precisely as the national conscience has been directed to, or directed from, the laws controlling it."

The book consists of three parts: the distribution of property, the distribution of incomes, and the distribution of taxes. In the first part Dr. Spahr gives an English retrospect of the tendency toward concentration before dealing with the American retrospect and the present situation. Summing up the English inquiry he says:

"We find that less than 2 per cent. of the families of the United Kingdom hold about three times as much private property as all the remainder, and that 93 per cent. of the people hold less than 8 per cent. of the accumulated wealth."

Dr. Spahr's analysis of "the old sectionalism and the new" is not the least striking portion of his "American retrospect," to the general reader. "The rebellion of 1861," he says, "was a rebellion of the richer classes in Amer ca against the rule of the middle classes," but the war itself created a new plutocracy. The withheld wages of the slaves, capitalized into the private property of their masters, was the chief factor in making the South the richest section of the nation in 1860, and through the influence of slavery all property at the South was concentrated. The war, however, led to a national tariff-taxing policy, depreciated paper money increased the public burden, and while 2,000 millions of property in the earnings of slaves were destroyed by the war, 2,600 millions of property in the taxes of freemen (national debt) were created. "The plutocracy at the South had been destroyed, but a much richer capitalist class at the North had been created." Dr. Spahr adds to the financial and tax legislation of the national Government a third cause for concentration of wealth: the great railroad properties, now overcapitalized by half, upon which the public is really paying interest. All three of these great causes of redistribution of wealth, according to the author, have worked for the impoverishment of the rural districts and the enrichment of the cities. He comes to the conclusion that the new sectionalism will be one of cities against country:

"We can hardly escape the conclusion that the average wealth of the families in the country districts does not exceed $3,250, while the average wealth of the families in the cities does exceed $9,000. When American political parties shall again divide upon issues vitally affecting the distribution of wealth, the clearly marked line of division will not be between East and West, but between city and country. More than was the South before the war, the cities are everywhere the strongholds of the rich; more than was the North before the war, the country districts are everywhere the strongholds of the middle classes. For, as will be seen, not only is the wealth of the cities far greater than the wealth of the country districts, but that wealth is in far fewer hands."

From census reports, from probate records and reports of state labor bureaus, quoted in detail in the book, Dr. Spahr infers an abnormal concentration of property in the cities in contrast with very wide distribution in farming counties:

"Nearly half the families in America own the real estate they occupy. The proportion of owners, furthermore, is more than twice as great upon the farms, where the average wealth is least, as in the cities, where the average wealth is greatest. The wide distribution of property, which is characteristic of America as distinguished from England, is only characteristic of her smaller towns and her farming districts. There, and there alone, can the middle classes become dominant in our political life; because there, and there alone, are the middle classes dominant in our industrial life."

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The present situation in the whole country is thus summed up:

"Less than half the families in America are propertyless; nevertheless, seven eighths of the families hold but one eighth of the wealth, while one per cent. of the families hold more than the remaining ninety-nine."

Dr. Spahr's study of the distribution of incomes contains conclusions of equal interest with those concerning property. He asserts that the forces which have determined the distribution of property are identical with those which have determined the distribution of incomes. To quote again:

"In fact, these forces as a rule have borne directly upon the distribution of incomes, and through this means have changed the distribution of property. This rule is likely to be maintained. The future laws which shall make better or worse the distribution of property are likely to accomplish their end, not by the bodily transfer of property from one class to another, but by making more equal or more unequal the distribution of the future incomes of the people."

In a table stating the national income as $10,800,000,000 there is $2,600,000,000 credited to agriculture, 8,497,000 persons engaged; $2,790,000,000 to manufactures and mechanical trades, 5,091,000 persons (4,650,000 wage-earners); $630,000,000 to railroads, 462,000 persons; $1,570,000,000 to others in trade or transportation, 2,863,000 persons; $670,000,000 to servants and laborers, 3,357,000 persons (wages at $200). In manufactures and mechanical trades wages amount to $1,674,000,000 and profits $1,116,000,000. For railroads the division of income is: wages $300,000,000, profits $330,000,000.

Respecting estimates of wages that are current Dr. Spahr points out that confusion arises from the supposition of steady employment. "It is a prosperous year indeed when the average wage-receiver aggregates forty-four full weeks' employment." In setting forth the recent history of wages, Dr. Spahr shows that the Aldrich report from the Senate finance committee in 1893 has spread conclusions regarding the progress of the workingmen which the data furnished by employers fails to support. The industries covered were urban industries which do not reflect the course of wages in the country at large, and summaries are tainted with the political aim of showing the highest possible level of wages. To support the latter criticism Dr. Spahr states that while the original returns for metal works and cotton factories, for instance, covered many establishments and many hundred employees, for stores the returns covered but one dry-goods store and one grocery employing less than thirty clerks. The committee not only made the uninvestigated industry count as much as either of thoroughly investigated ones in its table of "simple average for all industries," but

"proceeded to make a table of 'weighted averages,' assuming that the incredible advance of 40 per cent. in wages had been received by all the clerks in the country, and that, since these outnumbered the employees in metal works and cotton mills put together, therefore the returns for less than thirty clerks ought to outweigh those for more than 1,500 metal workers and more than 3,000 cotton operatives. By this means currency wages in 1891 were made to rise 1 per cent. above the level in 1873."

From the original data Dr. Spahr gives the corrected daily wages (in gold) in the urban industries as: 1860, $1.18; 1873, $1.81; 1891, $1.69. New England labor bureau reports show a further decline of about 7 per cent. between 1892 and 1894 in nominal wages and a still further reduction of yearly income from lack of employment. For farm labor the period of rising prices shows an advance of 50 per cent. followed by a fall of over 20 per cent. The author adds that the "total earnings" of American farmers have again fallen over 20 per cent. since 1890.

The estimate of national income in the book (nearly 11 billions) includes the income from property, superintendence and labor combined, in aggregate "about one sixth of the property of the nation." Dr. Spahr estimates that capital receives two fifths of the national income, while the labor of all classes, including that of the capitalists, receives three fifths. Summing up the distribution of income by classes he says:

"It appears that the general distribution of incomes in the United States is wider and better than in most countries of western Europe. Despite this fact, however, one eighth of the families in America receive more than half of the aggregate income, and the richest 1 per cent. receives a larger income than the poorest 50 per cent. ['1 per cent. of the families receive one fourth of the national income, while 50 per cent. receive barely one fifth']. In fact this small class of wealthy property-owners receives from property alone as large an income as half of our people receive from property and labor."

The third division of Dr. Spahr's books deals with the part of the income of each class which taxation takes, and emphasizes the injustice of indirect taxation and the justice of property tax.

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**The Fourteenth Amendment Was Adopted.**—The question raised by Judge Seymour D. Thompson regarding the legal adoption of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution, for lack of concurrent ratification by three fourths of the States [LITERARY DIGEST, October 17] is decided by a list of ratifications furnished by Prof. J. B. Moore, of Columbia University, to *The American Law Review*, November-December. Thirty-three state legislatures ratified the amendment between June 30, 1866, and February 18, 1870. Judge Thompson writes in *The Review:* "Rejecting the ratifications by the States of Ohio and New Jersey, which, as previously stated, were withdrawn before the quorum of three fourths of the States had been made up, there is still a ratification by thirty-one of the States, which is more than three fourths of the then number of States. After the admission into the Union of Nevada in 1864 and prior to the admission of Colorado in 1876 (the period covered by these various acts of ratification), the number of the States in the Union was thirty-seven. A ratification by twenty-eight of the States would therefore have been sufficient; nor would it have been practicable that the ratifications should be simultaneous. It remains true that, at the time of the proclamation of Mr. Seward and of the resolution of Congress, the amendment had not been ratified by the necessary three fourths of the States, unless the proposition is assented to that a State once ratifying can not, at any time before the requisite three fourths have ratified, withdraw its ratification. But as the ratification of the amendment depended upon the *fact* of three fourths of the States having assented to it, and not upon the proclamation of the Secretary of State, nor upon a joint resolution of Congress, it is clear that it was ratified, and is properly a part of the Constitution."

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## TOPICS IN BRIEF.

WHY not call it the nude journalism?—*The Press, New York.*

SEZEE DON'T WANTIT.

SEZZE Dont Wantit (does his tribe increase?)
Awoke one night from a deep dream of peace
And saw within the moonlight in his room,
Making it brilliant and like a candidate's boom,
McKinley writing in a book of gold.
Exceeding nerve had made Dont Wantit bold,
And to the Presence in the room he said:
"What writest thou?" The Major raised his head
And with a sigh that sounded like a sob,
Answered: "The names of those who want a job."
"And is mine one?" asked Sezze. "Nay, not so,"
Replied the Major. Sezze spake more low,
But cheerily still, and said: "You know me, Bill.
Just fix it, won't you, so it never will."
The Major wrote and vanished. The next night
He came again with a great wakening light,
And showed the names of those should have the best,
And Sezze Dont Wantit's name led all the rest.
—*The Sun, New York.*

LIFTED AT LAST.

MR. PLATT: "I always did believe in steady advertising."
—*The Inter Ocean, Chicago.*

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## LETTERS AND ART.

### POETICAL GENIUS IN CHILDREN.

MR. ANDREW LANG does not accept Dr. Johnson's definition of genius as "an infinite capacity for taking pains." On the contrary he would define it as "an unmeasured capacity for doing things *without* taking pains." There are, Mr. Lang is very sure, prodigious natural differences from the very first in the aptitudes of children, and no amount of painstaking can in later years overcome these differences. He cites in proof of this instances of natural mathematical genius, and other instances, such as those of Macaulay and Sir William Hamilton, where there was absolute incapacity to learn even the simplest rules of arithmetic. He refers also to the natural aptitude of musical prodigies, to sustain his point; but in the matter of poetical genius, he admits that its beginnings in childhood are difficult to recognize. What he says on this point (*North American Review*, January) will probably overthrow some fond popular conceptions, as he finds that the childhood of great poets is apt to be anything but agreeable and inspiring. Here is a part of what he has to say:

"If we turn to poetry, it becomes far more difficult [than in mathematics and music] to recognize early genius. Thousands of boys rime from a very early age, thousands of boys who will never be poets. Now the rimes of the boys who were destined to be poets have usually been no better than the rimes of boys who were destined to fall back on prose.

"The young Mozart was, from the age of four, undeniably a born musician. The young Millais, or Leonardo, or Landseer, or West, was, from early boyhood, undeniably a born painter. But the boyish poems of Scott, Keats, Byron, Shelley, Coleridge, and Tennyson were not a whit better, and were often a good deal worse, than those of boys who were not to be poets at all.

"As most children have many of the imaginative qualities of genius, the gift of vivid dreams, and as most children who are to be men of genius display little *special* power—except in music, arithmetic, and drawing—it is not an easy thing for parents to know whether they have a genius in the family or not!

"As far as I have studied the childhood of genius, it commonly shows itself less in performance than in *character*, and, alas, not agreeably! The future genius is often violent, ferocious, fond of solitude, disagreeable in society. . . .

"Scott's childhood was noisy. He yelled old poems at the top of his voice. He loved the lonely hills. He read forever, when he was not wandering alone, and he remembered everything that he read. He was a dreamer, a teller of romances to himself. He delighted in fighting, as did Keats. He studied everything except his books. His enthusiasm for poetry made a lady recognize him for a genius at the age of six, but his father thought he would end as a strolling fiddler. . . .

"Unluckily, sullen, dreamy, pugnacious boys are not at all uncommon. They do not become Scotts (not that *he* was sullen), nor Du Guesclins, nor Napoleons, nor Byrons—for Byron, too, was a passionate, lonely, morbid kind of boy, with terrible fits of temper. His early poems were trash.

"Shelley's early poems were trash; Scott's were such as almost any cleverish schoolboy can write, and there is no promise at all in the Tennysons' 'Poems by Two Brothers.'

"Shelley, indeed, was rather 'mad' at school, where he cursed his father and the king, and wrote the silliest of all schoolboy novels. He, also, was dreamy and solitary, but by no manner of means fond of fighting.

"In all these cases eccentricity was marked, but whether eccentricity in boyhood can be taken as promise of character and genius is another question. At school in Scotland, a few boys, like 'Mad Shelley,' were called 'dafty.' None of them has amazed the world by displaying genius! The great men named were all 'dafties' in boyhood, but all 'dafties' do not become great men.

"Coleridge was a 'dafty.' 'I took no pleasure in boyish sports, but read incessantly.' The other boys drove him from among them. He was always a dreamer, and saw so many ghosts that he did not believe in them. 'Before I was eight years old I was a *character*,' he says—and not an agreeable character! He was vain, lazy, he dreamed, and he despised everybody. He ran away from home, and stayed out all night in the rain. His son, Hartley, was the same child over again, and a metaphysical philosopher from his cradle.

"In most of these cases, in addition to mooning, solitary ways, and moody tempers, there was conspicuous *intellect* in the young genius. He could read early and, as it were, untaught, and he did read a great deal. Scott, Byron, Keats were also athletes and very fond of boxing, of sport, and of games, Byron bowling at cricket for Harrow. *These* geniuses were not such 'dafties' as their rivals.

"For my part, genius or no genius, I do hate a boy who 'shuns boyish sports,' as you so often read in biographies. But, on a general survey of genius in childhood, I think that we ought to try to put up with it, and not bully it at school, 'at least as far as we are able.'

"If the genius is a born artist, he is likely to be popular for drawing dogs, horses, and the schoolmaster. If he is going to be a poet—why one rather pities him, in his schooldays. A Scott, a Keats, may make himself respected at school by a genial readiness to fight all challengers, to take part in every dangerous diversion. A Cowper, or a Shelley, should probably not be sent to school at all, and genius rarely passes through the university without what Coleridge calls 'a row.' . . .

"Perhaps these remarks may console parents of lonely, dreamy, moody, ungovernable sons. Perhaps they may modify the contempt of schoolboys for 'dafties.' Don't bully such lads; don't thwart them needlessly. They may be children of promise, tho the odds, unluckily, are against any future performance. At all events, do not drive them too hard into uncongenial industries."

### BARRIE'S "SENTIMENTAL TOMMY."

IT is very seldom that one finds the critics so completely disarmed as in the presence of Tommy Sandys, otherwise "sentimental Tommy," otherwise "Jean Myles's bairn." It is not that the book is above criticism, for several defects in it (especially the long-drawn-out incidents in which Tommy imitates that other famous Tommy whom Mark Twain has recently made into a detective) are pointed out; but the book has such captivating qualities that every critic seems to be offering an apology for daring to find any fault with it.

The book is rather a succession of sketches, with Tommy as the unifying element, than a novel with a prearranged plot. Barrie indeed has since confessed that Tommy ran away with him and turned out something entirely different from what had been designed. The scene in the first third of the book is laid in London, where Tommy is born and where he gets his wonderful ideas of Thrums from his mother's passionate descriptions. Jean Myles, Tommy's mother, had been haled from Thrums for throwing over Aaron Latta for "magerful [masterful] Tom." Tom had led her a life of misery and died leaving her in poverty, but too proud to let the Thrums people know of it. It is in this situation that we meet Tommy:

"The celebrated Tommy first comes into view on a dirty London stair, and he was in sexless garments, which were all he had, and he was five, and so, tho we are looking at him, we must do it sideways, lest he sit down hurriedly to hide them. . . .

"This stair was nursery to all the children whose homes opened on it, not so safe as nurseries in the part of London that is chiefly inhabited by boys in sailor suits, but preferable as a center of adventure, and here on an afternoon sat two. They were very busy boasting, but only the smaller had imagination, and as he used it recklessly, their positions soon changed; sexless garments was now prone on a step, breeches sitting on him.

"Shovel, a man of seven, had said, 'None on your lip. You weren't never at Thrums yourself.'

"Tommy's reply was, 'Ain't my mother a Thrums woman?'

"Shovel, who had but one eye, and that bloodshot, fixed it on him threateningly.

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"'The Thames is in London,' he said.

"'Cos they wouldn't not have it in Thrums,' replied Tommy.

"'Amstead 'Eath's in London, I tell yer,' Shovel said.

"'The cemetery is in Thrums,' said Tommy.

"'There ain't no queens in Thrums anyhow.'

"'There's the auld licht minister.'

"'Well, then, if you jest seed Trafalgar Square!'

"'If you jest seed the Thrums town-house!'

"'St. Paul's ain't in Thrums.'

"'It would like to be.'

"After reflecting, Shovel said in desperation, 'Well, then, my father were once at a hanging.'

"Tommy replied instantly, 'It were my father that was hanged.'

"There was no possible answer to this save a knock-down blow, but tho Tommy was vanquished in body, his spirit remained stanch; he raised his head and gasped, 'You should see how they knock down in Thrums.' It was then that Shovel sat on him."

Tommy's sister, Elspeth, is born, despite the young man's endeavors to keep her from finding entrance in the house, and the mother, finding herself not long afterward on her death-bed, swallows her pride and writes to Aaron Latta beseeching him to care for her bairns. He does so, and that is how Tommy and Elspeth come to Thrums. But alas for the fond illusions of childhood!

"The garret where Tommy and Elspeth were to sleep [in Aaron Latta's house] was reached by a ladder from the hallen; when you were near the top of the ladder your head hit a trap-door and pushed it open. At one end of the garret was the bed, and at the other end were piled sticks for firewood and curious dark-colored slabs whose smell the children disliked until Tommy said, excitedly, 'Peat!' and then they sniffed reverently.

"It was Tommy, too, who discovered the tree-tops of the Den, and Elspeth, seeing him gazing in a transport out at the window, cried: 'What is it, Tommy? Quick!'

"'Promise no to scream,' he replied, warningly. 'Well, then, Elspeth Sandys, that's where the Den is!'

"Elspeth blinked with awe, and anon said, wistfully, 'Tommy, do you see that there? That's where the Den is!'

"'It were me what told you,' cried Tommy, jealously.

"'But let me tell you, Tommy!'

"'Well, then, you can tell me.'

"'That there is the Den, Tommy!'

"'Dagont!'

"Oh that to-morrow were here! Oh, that Shovel could see these two to-morrow!

"Here is another splendid game, T. Sandys, inventor. The girl goes into the bed, the boy shuts the door on her, and imitates the sound of a train in motion. He opens the door and cries, 'Tickets, please.' The girl says, 'What is the name of this place?' The boy replies, 'It's Thrums!' There is more to follow, but the only two who have played the game always roared so joyously at this point that they could go no farther.

"'Oh, to-morrow, come quick, quick!'

"'Oh, poor Shovel!'

"To-morrow came, and with it two eager little figures rose and gulped their porridge, and set off to see Thrums. They were dressed in black clothes Aaron Latta had bought for them in London, and they had agreed just to walk, but when they reached the door and saw the tree-tops of the Den, they—they ran. Would you not like to hold them back? It is a child's tragedy."

Then follows a series of pathetic disappointments and of brave endeavors on Tommy's part to keep up courage and console his sister, ending with: "Never mind, Elspeth, you have me yet." But even this consolation failed, and the crisis had to be met with a more desperate expedient:

"He knew all the ways of getting round Elspeth, and when next he spoke it was with a sorrowful dignity. 'I didna think,' he said, 'as yer wanted me never to be able to speak again; no, I didna think it, Elspeth.'

"She took her hands from her face and looked at him inquiringly.

"'One of the stories mamma telled me and Reddy,' he said, 'were about a man what saw such a beauty thing that he was struck dumb with admiration. Struck dumb is never to be able to speak again, and I wish I had been struck dumb when you wanted it.'

"'But I didn't want it!' Elspeth cried.

"'If Thrums had been one little bit beautier than it is,' he went on solemnly, 'it would have struck me dumb. It would have hurt me sore, but what about that, if it pleased you!'

"Then did Elspeth see what a wicked girl she had been, and when next the two were observed by the curious (it was on the cemetery road), they were once more looking cheerful. At the smallest provocation they exchanged notes of admiration, such as, 'Oh, Tommy, what a bonny barrel' or 'Oh, Elspeth, I tell yer that's a dike, and there's just walls in London;' but sometimes Elspeth would stoop hastily, pretending that she wanted to tie her bootlace, but really to brush away a tear, and there were moments when Tommy hung very limp. Each was trying to deceive the other for the other's sake, and one of them was never good at deception. They saw through each other, yet kept up the chilly game, because they could think of nothing better, and perhaps the game was worth playing, for love invented it."

Tommy is followed down to his fifteenth year, when, because of his failure in the examinations, he is sent in disgrace to be a herder, he and Elspeth being separated. But the author has promised a sequel in which Tommy rises to fame and his portrait is exhibited in the Royal Academy.

From an exceptionally bright review in *The Critic*, we quote the following:

"At the risk of seeming to cringe before a public whose previous fads and enthusiasms have but lashed us into imperturbability, we are obliged to confess, as regards the notorious case of Sentimental Tommy, that we have been reduced to a crude and unmitigated joy. Perhaps Tommy's innumerableness, his frequent embarrassment in determining which he really was, his impersonal pride in his respective selves, is the most striking feature of this profound and exquisite study of a child's soul wondering at itself. . . .

"Just how the little digit will grow up—just how with these exceedingly readable faults all wrought into life itself and the multiples of manhood, he will manage to face the alternative of either being one of his heroes or of having them all look down upon him, we can not say. But if Mr. Barrie will be responsible for Tommy, we shall be content to wait. We should like to see his letters to Elspeth—while the waiting lasts. We had thought there was some excess in her sisterly way of plumping into prayer on the slightest provocation, at almost any time and place, but it makes the reader feel a little easier in his mind, perhaps, knowing what Tommy is, and with Mr. Barrie and the Almighty and Elspeth all doing their best, we await the second volume of 'Sentimental Tommy' with resolute but troubled hope. Grizel's face haunts us in the moor. We dread his being a man. We dread his not being a man. What is play in Thrums is tragedy in Gotham."

The tale of Grizel, the child of the outcast "Painted Lady," rather than the career of Tommy, is, in the judgment of Quiller-Couch—and many will agree with him—"the crown of the book." We quote from his review in *The Contemporary*:

"Now concerning 'Sentimental Tommy,' Mr. Barrie's latest book, [written before "Margaret Ogilvy" was published] and (as many will hold) his masterpiece, three very obvious remarks may be made at the outset. The first is, that Mr. Barrie now for the first time turns to serious purpose that queer knowledge of the humors of childhood which he formerly—in the case of Meade *Primus* [in "My Lady Nicotine"] for example—wasted upon trifles. The second is, that he concurrently raises what one may call the Thrums note to the *n*'th power. I can not offer to define that note exactly, but love of home will be found in it, and of the hearth, and of the worn faces of kinsfolk, and of all things homely; and a sense of tears and of the heroism of obscure lives; and an exile's regret, lingering upon trifles and the smile of one who knows better, and the sigh of one who knows better still. Let it suffice that you all recognize what so many have imitated of late. And let it be hoped that after reading 'Sentimental Tommy' you will all recognize the imitations for what they are. For even the pathos of the last chapter of 'A Window in Thrums' did not reach the emotional intensity of Jean Myles's last mes-

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sage to Aaron Latta, or of her last Hogmanay, or of Aaron's last look up at his old love, or of Grizel's 'straiking' of her mother the Painted Lady. You may contend that this pathos is almost intolerably poignant and altogether too frequent, and that by reason of it the masterpiece now and then comes dangerously near to resembling a *tour de force*. But you can not deny that in this book, for good or ill, Mr. Barrie has allowed his genius the fullest expression of its own individual quality, and has drawn notes unapproachable and inimitable from the very strings which his imitators selected for their experiments in 'thrumming.'

"And in the third place (tho this observation is really implied in the foregoing one), 'Sentimental Tommy' must be recognized as a book of genius before the critic falls to work upon it with line and measure, and that recognition must qualify your acceptance of the critic's measurements and conclusions."

## MADAME CALVÉ'S HOME IN THE CEVENNES.

MME. CALVÉ'S musical successes are known to all the world; but the fact is not so generally known that she attributes them to the aid of unseen forces; and that, in fulfillment of a vow made at the beginning of her career, she devotes a

MME. CALVÉ.

considerable portion of her income to charitable purposes. This fact has something to do with her recent purchase of a home, as will be seen by the following extract from an article in *The Arena* (January) by George E. Cook:

"Mme. Calvé has bought an old castle with some thousands of acres in the heart of the Cévennes. It was built by the Cabrières family in the eleventh century, and had been held by them for many succeeding generations. Of dark yellow stone, graved with the accumulated moisture of centuries, perched on an almost inaccessible rock between seven and eight hundred feet above the valley of the Tarn and overlooking the village, it is a very picturesque object in the wild landscape. Here Calvé makes her home high up among the vultures and the eagles. All about stretches her domain. She raises vegetables and sheep, and has a dairy, for the estate comprises vast plains, and three great mountains that she has named respectively 'Carmen,' 'Cavalleria,' and 'Navarraise,' these three operas having provided her with means to purchase the estate, which she calls a souvenir of America, as it was in that country she earned the money to buy it. The 'Château Cabrières,' as it is called, has many towers, and clustered about it is a collection of low outbuildings that give it a look of great size, altho in itself it does not contain more rooms than do the handsome homes of our American country gentlemen. By removing the floor between two stories, she has built a music-room that has not its equal in acoustic properties, as well as in extent and elegance, in any country. In this room she gathers the souvenirs of her artistic triumphs, gifts of monarchs and of the people; a room replete with works of art and *vertu*.

"A peculiar story goes with her possession of this château. Mlle. de Walski, who is the intimate friend of Calvé, is at the head of psychological matters, as it were, in France. Many Catholics are extremely mystical, and among all the devotees of mysticism one can not be found more thoroughly imbued with it than is Mme. Calvé; in fact, she attributes her marvelous success to the aid of unseen forces. At the commencement of her career, Mlle. de Walski made her take a vow that, if she should succeed in her art, she would devote a certain portion to some charitable purpose. Now, in fulfilment of her vow, she is building on her estate an orphanage for forty little girls, whom she gathers from the slums of her own country and places under the care of a Catholic sisterhood. They are taught gardening and other employments of a kind to make them useful citizens of the country in which they live. Here too Calvé is building a church in the Roman style of architecture, the motto of which is, 'Suffer little children to come unto me.' In her castle is a beautiful chapel where the employees on the estate can attend service; but the church is for the children and people of the surrounding country. Besides the three mountains I have named there are four others of lesser importance on her estate, and she grows grapes and almonds, so that the resources of the property will support her when her voice has lost its freshness and the public are looking for a new *prima donna* to fill her place."

## ARTIFICIALITY OF RELIGIOUS ART.

HOLMAN HUNT raises his voice in protest, as he has raised it before, against "the sham art that we have got in our churches." But he protests now not hopelessly, as heretofore, but with hope born of a movement in England among the churchmen themselves in behalf of better things, and the formation of what is called the "Clergy and Artists' Association." A paper was read by him recently before the Church Congress and is printed in *The Contemporary Review* (January).

Mr. Hunt begins with a few words of admiration for the Anglican Church, but complains that "with respect to art it has from the beginning held a most discouraging position." This position, he thinks, has no sanction in the attitude of the primitive church, as shown by the illustrations of scriptural events on the walls of the catacombs and the designs on Christian sarcophagi preserved in the Lateran. Yet it is only in recent years, in England, that the open condemnation of painting and sculpture, in the name of religion, has ceased, and it was no longer ago than 1774 that the Bishop of London refused the offer of Sir Joshua Reynolds and James Barry to give their services gratuitously for the painting of St. Paul's, saying that never in his lifetime should the cathedral be so desecrated.

There is no truth in the assumption, so Mr. Hunt claims, that the Jews of the Old-Testament times considered the second commandment as an interdict on all art, since they emblazoned their standards with the forms of animals, placed cherubim in the holy of holies, and had in the temple sculptured oxen and lions.

After the Dark Ages, art was slow in reviving, but produced, even in its infancy, creations whose lovableness is a powerful plea for the Catholic Church, and demands a stay of the condemnatory judgment against her. Mr. Hunt would not, he says,

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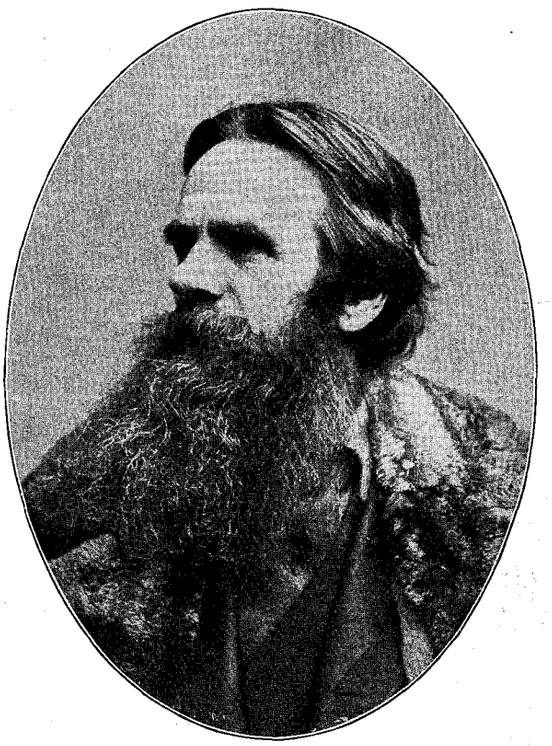
begrudge any price paid for the great Reformation, if only it were paid for religion's sake; but the antagonism to art, and the destruction of noble works of exquisite design, as told by Cobbett, were not called for by religion, but were the result of the angry feelings engendered by controversial strife. A change has taken place in the Church of England in the last half-century, but the favorable tendency that has set in has been misdirected. When the change began, the Gothic taste in church building had completely overcome all other fashions, and the architects of that day, having absolutely no ideas of their own, merely copied what they found in edifices of five hundred years before. We give at this point Mr. Hunt's own words:



HOLMAN HUNT.

"The stone and wood images found about the remains of ancient churches had, in many cases, been carved by the medieval local craftsmen, who, with the irrepressible love of humor in the Scandinavian race, having no other field whereon to indulge it had added caricature to their clumsy skill, which was derived in some remote degree from Byzantine example. These images, with an interdiction of all levity that could excite a smile, became the revivalists' highest types of artistic excellence. For modern demand the architect chose the rudest stonecutter available, the more unsophisticated the workman the truer his style; above all, the image was to have no reflective expression of the living hewer's soul. It was to be a copy, with all the original defects of work, but it was to have no life whatever. When applied to for internal ornamentation by means of painting and stained glass, the architect reasoned as he had done before: the less a man knew of living art the more he could be trusted not to think, and the better he would do slavish mimicry. It was done to admiration, the limner engaged hands, he prospered beyond measure, and the pattern-maker architect, from that time to this, has recommended the pattern-making designer for every sort of artistic decoration, as it is called, in all churches from the lowest to the highest."

Some of the figures produced under these conditions, we are told, require one to believe that all the saints were dwarfs, with the feet just where the knees should be; others, that one believe them to have been all persons of extraordinary stature. At the best, the pictures are only quaint, antiquated patterns, having no relation to the living minds of men. The requirements of art have changed. Leonardo da Vinci, in his noble painting of the Last Supper, represented Jesus and the disciples sitting, and still, tho we have since learned that they reclined in the Roman manner, his treatment is slavishly followed. Mr. Hunt continues as follows:

"The sham art that we have got in our churches has been tolerated so long because art is considered to be properly an indulgence for the rich. In Florence four hundred years ago, when the people there—or rather the church—founded the hospital for the nursing of foundling children (it is edifying to mark the date), it was not considered properly furnished until it had been decorated with panels designed and executed by Lucca della Robbia, and there they remain to this day. Many of the benevolent in our time leave money to endow hospitals, but who ever thinks that the poor patients should in the period of repose have their minds as well as their bodies ministered to? Let us go deeper still, and consider the poor criminal in his solitary prison. There, would it not be possible to reach the heart of the hardened by that language which is universal? Think of the cheerless prison chapel in which he worships with words that he must be tempted to regard as part of the official routine. Still there is a more terrible abyss, there is the murderer in the condemned cell. Have you never dreamt that you were in his position? Imagine him with a nightmare that will never go, sleeping or waking, the blank unanswering walls of his prison mocking his desire to escape from himself, and then ask whether art can be a living art that leaves such outcasts unconsidered? The thought of these castaways will put to the test the worth of the affected ecclesiastical patterns in vogue; for it must lead us to ask how far they would meet the tragic requirements of men in the valley of the Shadow of Death?

"The system, believe me, is degrading to all concerned; to the architect who thinks that his work can be done by rule and compass; to the servile collector of antique types with samples of designs for holy subjects at choice; to the craftsmen who work for him with instructions above all not to make any lines but those of dead ideas; and to the church-goer in whose mind the galvanized puppets portrayed are calculated to originate the idea that the story on which the religion is founded is a mere myth; and to the artist wavering in faith there is no doubt danger that he will go over into the ranks officered by the professional critic, and adopt the idea that his gleanings of beauty can only be for the luxurious and thoughtless. Throughout my life I have looked upon the artificiality of religious design with despair. It was impossible to cure the evil, for some artists acquiesced in the practise it had given rise to. What gives new hope for the generation to come is that ecclesiastics have arisen with a new sense of the value of living art, and a small number of young artists have thought it high time to combine to denounce the prevalent taste, and to strive to serve religious thought with designs of original conception, and they have formed the Clergy and Artists' Association.' I trust that the members will realize the difficulties of the position they have assumed."

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**John Ruskin's Philanthropy.**—From time to time references are made to the sacrifice of his fortune made by Ruskin for the benefit of the poor. *The Home Journal* gives some of the interesting and inspiring details of this sacrifice:

"Through his father, Mr. Ruskin fell heir to nearly $1,000,000 to which must be added the income of his writings. But this man counted his treasures as a trust fund, held in the interests of suffering merit or youth's promising talent. That he was on the London committee for the victualing of Paris in 1871 proves that his benevolence was as well known as Peabody's or Lady Burdett-Coutt's. Taxing himself first a tenth, then half, he finally gave his entire income. If he needed botanical and art works for his studies, he crippled himself rather than refuse his last spare twenty guineas to the widow of a dead artist. If for health's sake and art's sake he wanted to take a trip to Switzerland, he would forego it that he might contribute £100 to the Cruikshank memorial. If others would not encourage the study of art in schools, he would buy ten water-color drawings of William Hunt, paying for each $375, and give them to the public schools of London. In one of his letters to the workingmen of Great Britain he told them what he had done, and was doing, with his money, in carrying on his St. George's Guild and his plans for rent reform. Up to 1877 he had given away all his fortune save $250,000. But, in view of the needs of his workingmen's clubs, this

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amount seemed much too large for his personal wants. He therefore determined to distribute all save £12,000 worth of consols, the interest of which would bring him some £300. Upon this interest he now lives, the income of his books being distributed among his servants, his old pensioners, and his various plans for social reform."

He bestowed his art treasures, we are further told, with like generosity, on institutions where the poor would have access to them. He anticipated General Booth by founding a guild to redeem waste lands and regenerate ruined lives. Under his influence the historian Green spent several years in work among the London poor. The best lectures of the great art-critic, it is said, have never been given where wealth and social prestige were represented, but before working-girls' clubs and workingmen's associations.

## THE ORIGIN OF "HAMLET."

"ONE of the most faulty of all the great works of imagination," is the characterization given to "Hamlet" by Arthur T. Lyttleton, and, anticipating the mental revolt such a characterization is likely to create, he precedes it by invoking "the ample, tho now, perhaps, somewhat threadbare authority" of Dr. Johnson. He admits that it is the most interesting drama of history, of unequaled attraction both for the student and the playgoer; yet he agrees with Johnson that there are scenes which neither forward nor retard the action; that there is no adequate cause for *Hamlet's* feigned madness; and that *Hamlet* is "through the whole piece" an instrument rather than an agent. These structural and vital defects are not to be paralleled by similar defects in work which is altogether Shakespeare's. And this brings Mr. Lyttleton to his subject. Is "Hamlet" altogether Shakespeare's? he asks; and he ventures (*National Review*, December) to answer in the negative.

He proceeds to sketch the history of the play, referring especially to the complete confusion into which the textual critics were thrown by the discovery, early in this century, of the Quarto edition of 1603 and the remarkable variations between it and the Quarto of 1604 and the Folio of 1623. He passes in review the various attempts to explain these variations, accepting that which makes the first Quarto a corrupt and mutilated copy of an earlier play. Whether this copy was made by Shakespeare either in whole or in part, Mr. Lyttleton does not undertake to decide. What he is concerned with is not the language, but the plot, and he considers it certain that Shakespeare did not invent the whole plot. It existed in part in prose form before Shakespeare's time. There was also a play of "Hamlet" as early at least as 1589, which differed from the prose story chiefly in introducing a ghost. Here, so far as England is concerned, our information ceases; but the gap is filled from a most unexpected quarter. One of the most curious facts in the history of the English play is the invasion, from the middle of the sixteenth century onward, of English actors into Denmark, Sweden, and Germany, acting in the English language a large repertory of English plays. Some of these were afterward published in German, among them "Hamlet," a MS. of which, dated 1710, is still preserved. It gives the outline and framework of Shakespeare's play, but with such inartistic construction, such excessively foolish and dull comic scenes and characters, that Mr. Lyttleton can not believe that the play is even remotely derived from Shakespeare's work. We will not follow him in his reasons for this conclusion, and for the inference he draws that this German "Hamlet" was taken from an English original, which was not Shakespeare's "Hamlet" either in its earlier or its later form. The theory, then, to which Mr. Lyttleton holds concerning the origin of Shakespeare's play is stated as follows:

"On the old story a play was based, about 1589, by one of the numerous writers who were then composing for the stage. This play was taken to Germany, and, after much alteration and disguising, with a slight later admixture of traditional points from Shakespeare's 'Hamlet,' became the crude German drama we have been discussing. About the year 1600, or possibly earlier, Shakespeare took the original play and began to remodel it for his company. An early draft of this remodeled play was blunderingly copied and surreptitiously published in 1603, upon which Shakespeare in self-defense completed the remodeling, practically rewrote the entire play, and published it in 1604 in the form in which we now have it."

For the view thus far stated, Mr. Lyttleton does not claim originality; but the following is his own contribution, made "with great diffidence," to the discussion regarding Shakespeare methods of treatment:

"It will now be seen that for the plot as a whole Shakespeare is not responsible, for he took it, not directly from the old story, which contains comparatively few of the incidents, but from the play which is represented for us by the German 'Hamlet.' Now let us look at the points which seem so perplexing and so faulty. We can not see the meaning of *Hamlet's* feigned madness. That was not invented by Shakespeare. He found it both in the prose story and in the old play. His treatment of *Ophelia* is inexplicable. That was obviously a feature in the old play, for it is quite unmistakable in the German edition. The accident of his return from banishment, and the mere chance by which the *King's* punishment is ultimately effected, are both in the German, and therefore must be credited to the original play. The savage touch of his reluctance to kill the *King* at his prayers is also in the German, and so is the unaccountable butchery at the end, which has always been felt to be a blot on the 'Hamlet' of Shakespeare. It may, in short, be plausibly argued that all the inconsistencies and faults which are visible in 'Hamlet' are, with one exception, due to the old play on which Shakespeare worked; and this will account for their presence in his drama. I say with one exception, and that is an important one. In the old *Hamlet* there is no trace whatever of the hesitation or delay in carrying out his purpose of revenge, which is the chief characteristic of Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. There is, indeed, delay, or there would be no plot at all, but it is delay which is forced on *Hamlet*, not by his own temperament but by circumstances. He can not kill the *King* till he finds him alone, and instead of chiding himself for his irresolution, as Shakespeare's *Hamlet* does, he chides Nemesis for not giving him an opportunity for revenge, 'because the fratricide is surrounded by so many people.' The original *Hamlet* is irresolute by compulsion, not by choice. Of all that constitutes to the main interest and charm of the play, the problem of *Hamlet's* character, there was apparently no trace in the original play."

## NOTES.

ANTHONY HOPE is just finishing a sequel to "The Prisoner of Zenda," entitled "The Constable of Zenda." *McClure's* will publish it.

IN England, according to Edmund Gosse, the readers of poetry are mainly drawn "from one sex and one decade," that is to say, males between the ages of 22 and 32. In America, he has reason to think that it is different.

*Romance* changes hands this month, Gilson Willets, formerly editor of *Current Literature*, now editing and publishing it. Among writers for the January number are: Hall Caine, Anthony Hope, Alphonse Daudet, Julian Hawthorne, S. Baring Gould, W. Clark Russell, Mrs. Hungerford, S. R. Crockett, and John Habberton.

"NO better piece of historical writing," says the London *Academy*, "has appeared for some time than that which relates the long conflict between science and theology, by an American writer, Prof. Andrew Dickson White. This book is free from the most obvious taint of such literature, strong, *ex parte* bias, while at the same time it preaches the continued triumph of science."

RUBINSTEIN, according to one of his pupils, who is writing a series of articles for *The Home Journal*, had a horror of ambitious mothers. "I never knew him face one alone, and many a time I have sat with him, by special request, during the interview. "Good heavens!" he would cry in desperation, "I am Rubinstein. and I am director of the Conservatory, but you can not expect me therefore to make geniuses."

A DRAMATIC version of "The Pilgrim's Progress" has been placed "on the boards" in London. As advertised, it is "A Mystery Play, by G. G. Collingham, founded on John Bunyan's Immortal Allegory." Rumor has it that G. G. Collingham is a lady who has ventured much of her private means on the production of the play. Aside from the names of the characters, says a critic in *The Saturday Review*, "it would not have occurred to me that Mr. Collingham or any one else connected with the Olympic production had ever read or heard of Bunyan."

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## SCIENCE.

### CAN ANIMALS FORETELL EARTHQUAKES?

THE interesting investigations of an Italian seismologist on this subject have been mentioned already in these columns. We now translate from *Cosmos* (Paris, December 26) a detailed account of them, with the conclusions. Says the article to which we refer:

"If we open any cyclopedia of science at the article 'Earthquakes,' we shall find the statement that animals can foretell earthquake shocks and warn man of their approach. No novelist has ever neglected this point. In speaking of an earthquake, he always makes us hear the dogs howling dismally and horses whinnying as if crazy with terror; the chickens are seized with unspeakable fright, and even the little birds in their cages show by their frightened attitudes the anxiety that the coming catastrophe causes them.

"M. Adolfo Cancani was desirous of verifying this conclusion experimentally, to find out whether there was not some truth concealed under the fantastic garb of legend, or whether we must not consign all these presentiments to the rank of children's tales. This interesting study is published in the *Bolletino della Societa Sismologica Italiana*.

"To establish such facts is not always very easy, for observers are often too much disturbed themselves to give to their investigations the calm and lucid attention that would be desirable. At the instant of a severe earthquake shock, when the earth is trembling beneath our feet, and the furniture is dancing a saraband around the room, when the walls of the house are creaking and cracking, when pieces of plaster and bricks are falling—that is scarcely the time to interest one's self about what the horses in the stable have been doing several seconds previous. And if by chance we have observed anything, a strong impression of it immediately afterward is not a sufficient guaranty of the fidelity of the memory.

"But whatever this difficulty may be, we must first distinguish between the phenomena observed among animals at the exact moment of the shock and those that precede it. Earthquakes produce certain effects even on men, and animals should be all the more sensitive to them; and most of the observers that are habitually with animals, such as shepherds, farm hands, and stable-men, agree in saying that earthquakes, when they are at all marked, have clearly an effect on beasts.

"It remains to consider what has been the principal object of this study; namely, the foretelling of earthquakes by animals.

"It is impossible to deny this power in a great number of cases. Not to mention the classic descriptions, which certainly are based on facts as a whole, M. Cancani has collected a considerable number that have been observed during recent earthquakes in Italy.

"At Rimini there was on March 18, 1875, an earthquake that has been studied by Professor Serpieri. Among the numerous signs of terror that were shown by the animals, the following is characteristic: There was a detachment of lancers in the city; a little before the shock the horses, which were lying down, suddenly rose and turned their heads toward the stable-door, pricking up their ears, tugging at their halters in the effort to escape, leaping and neighing furiously. The stable-men ran up and several seconds afterward felt the shock. The horses stopped as if seized with stupor, but when the shock was over they began to leap and neigh again. The soldiers were not able to quiet them for some time.

"Professor Mazzoli, of Pesaro, says that an acquaintance of his had in his room two sparrows at liberty and two goldfinches in a cage. Two or three minutes before the earthquake one of the goldfinches gave a harsh cry. At the same moment the two sparrows left the book-case, where they had perched, and fled, one to the bed, the other to a corner of the room. At a second cry of the goldfinch both the birds fell to the floor as if senseless. The person who reports this then thought of the probability of an earthquake, and sure enough one shortly took place with a violence that cracked the walls of his apartment.

"Other Italian scientists report similar observations, dwelling chiefly on the fear that barnyard fowls manifest. Chickens cry out in terror as if some one had entered the poultry-yard, causing the people in the house to think that thieves have broken into it. In one of these cases the proprietor went out in a hurry to surprise the supposed robber, and it was fortunate for him that he did so, for the shock that ensued laid his house in ruins. The supplements of the *Bolletino Meteorico* relating to different animals tell what took place in various places in different circumstances, and from the whole we must conclude that in a large number of cases, two or three minutes before the shock, animals notice some signs that precede it, and give manifest evidence of disquietude and fear.

"But while these observations may be accepted as trustworthy, it is equally certain that in other circumstances animals have been frightened by the shock but have not foreseen it. Observations made during an earthquake that took place at Spoleta early in October of last year show that animals that were frightened during the shock had remained perfectly quiet up to the moment of its occurrence. Professor Galli, the celebrated seismologist of Velletri, relates that during an earthquake that he had occasion to observe in that place on January 14, 1888, no sign among the animals which gave notice of its approach, altho the shock was so severe that it killed birds in their cages.

"We have, then, two completely distinct and contradictory series of observations. M. Cancani thinks that he has found the means of explaining this contradiction by a study of the progress of the earthquake itself. According to him the animals that are at the epicenter, that is, at the very center of the shock, feel no sensation, but when they are at some distance from the epicenter they can foretell the shock. It may easily be understood that when the shock comes from a distance it causes insensible movements of the ground that spread far and wide and serve as forerunners. Animals perceive these first agitations of the earth, and hence their disquietude, which makes itself visible in signs of terror. When, on the contrary, they are within the area of the epicenter these tremblings of the earth either do not take place or are confounded with the principal shock, which explains why, in this case, animals have no preliminary signs to go by.

"M. Cancani's conclusions do not yet form a part of authoritative science, and he requests seismologists to turn their attention to the signs that animals may give and to note these without prejudice. The problem can be solved only by means of a large number of observations.

"M. Cancani is quite right. His advice is good, but it is not perfectly easy to follow. An amateur can not always keep his eyes fixed on the cage that contains his canaries, and a shepherd, even when in personal charge of his flock, often relies more on his dogs than on his own vigilance. Nevertheless, since it is the only practical way of increasing our sphere of knowledge we must try it, and if one out of ten observations is an acquisition to science, we must count ourselves happy. We must, in fine, recollect this truth: the easier it is to see, the harder it is to see well, that is to say, to observe without prejudice. It is not to our credit, but it is a fact, that two scientists, imbued with contrary theories regarding the same fact, will observe it in ways so different that their observations will not be comparable. To cite facts in support of this axiom would take us too far out of our way."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

### NEW METHODS OF DISTINGUISHING REAL FROM APPARENT DEATH.

TWO new methods of distinguishing real from apparent death are described and advocated by Dr. Séberin Icard in a book, just published in Paris, entitled "La Mort Réelle et la Mort Apparente." They are thus described in a brief review in *The British Medical Journal*, January 9:

"One method consists in the hypodermic or intravenous injection of certain substances, and subsequently ascertaining whether these substances have been dispersed throughout the system. If they have, then the circulation persists and life continues, altho the beating of the heart may not be detected by auscultation. Among the substances recommended for injection are fluorescein, sodium iodid, lithium iodid, and potassium ferrocyanid. Preference is given to fluorescein, 1 gram [15½ grains] of which is dissolved with an equal weight of sodium carbonate in 8 cubic

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centimeters [½ cubic inch] of water, and the whole quantity is then injected subcutaneously. If the circulation is persisting, the skin and mucous membranes after a very few minutes assume a yellowish-green color; about twenty minutes after injection the portion of the eye within the iris assumes a green color from penetration of the fluorescein into the vitreous and aqueous humors, and in the blood the fluorescein may be detected by the following method: One or two threads of cotton are passed under the skin in a simular manner to a seton, and, when saturated with blood, are transferred to a test-tube and boiled with a little water. As the liquid clears, the green color of the fluorescein becomes evident if that body had been absorbed into the blood. It is stated that the injection of this quantity of fluorescein is unattended with danger, supposing the person to be alive.

"The second method for the distinction of real from apparent death consists in picking up a fold of the skin, and powerfully compressing it with a pair of artery forceps. If the skin does not completely settle down, and if the fine furrows produced by the teeth of the forceps continue indefinitely, then death has occurred; whereas, if the circulation is continuing, the fold and the marks of the teeth of the forceps disappear. Moreover, if death has occurred, the portion of skin compressed by the forceps assumes a parchment-like appearance."

The reviewer remarks, in closing, that the fluorescein test might be useful on rare occasions, but that the compression test is likely to be misleading.

## A TEN-MILLION-DOLLAR BEQUEST FOR SCIENCE.

ONE of the most notable scientific bequests of the century is that of Alfred Nobel, the inventor of dynamite, who has left property worth probably $10,000,000 to establish five annual prizes, three of them for pure scientific discovery. According to *Le Figaro*, these prizes are to be awarded respectively to the persons who shall have made during the year the most important discoveries in physics, in chemistry, and in physiology, to the one who shall have produced the greatest work in the ideal sense in the domain of letters, and to him who shall have done most toward the establishment of universal peace. The testator goes on to say, according to *Le Figaro*:

The first two prizes (Physics and Chemistry), shall be awarded by the Academy of Sciences of Sweden; that for physiological or medical works by the Carolus Institute of Stockholm, the literary prize by the Swedish Academy, and that for the spreading of peace by a committee of five members chosen by the Norwegian Storthing.

"It is my express will that no consideration of nationality should be taken into account in awarding these prizes, so that the most worthy may receive the reward whether he be a Scandinavian or no."

Commenting on this, the New York *Sun*, January 19, says:

"Mr. Nobel's convertible fortune consists of real property in Paris and San Remo, but for the greater part of securities deposited in his house at Paris, and with bankers in London, Paris, Berlin, St. Petersburg, and Stockholm. It will take some time to find out the exact amount of the bequests, but it is safe to say that it will amount to at least $10,000,000, and that each of the yearly prizes established by Mr. Nobel will be as large as $60,000. These are the largest prizes that have ever been established. It remains to be seen what advancement of the objects which M. Nobel had at heart will be attained by so profuse liberality."

It is stated in *The Hospital* that one of the prizes, probably the fourth mentioned above, is "for the most distinguished literary contribution in the same field" [physiology] and it comments as follows:

"Science, more especially physiological and medical science, suffers enormously for lack of able exposition. The inventor, the man who has a 'good thing' for sale, often fails to realize a fortune because he has not the means, or does not know the best methods of 'placing his goods upon the market.' In like manner, discoveries are made in science from time to time, improvements are made in the art of healing,—which remain a dead letter to the world, sometimes for years, and sometimes permanently, because there has been no man of adequate expository faculty to place them in clear, intelligent, interesting, and convincing terms before all those who have actual or potential interest in them. As a case in point, chloroform may be mentioned. Sir James Simpson had not the merit of discovering chloroform, nor even of making the first experiments with it. He had the merit of so convincing the medical mind that its general use became a necessity with hardly a day's undue delay. But the real discoverer was a medical student whose name is unknown to most of the medical men of our own time. Science which is not adequately expounded is lost to the world, and Mr. Alfred Nobel has shown a rare practicality in devoting so much as one fifth of a large fortune to the furtherance of science exposition."

It will be seen that the accounts differ slightly, but there can be no doubt that Mr. Nobel's bequest is one of the chief scientific events of the century.

## SHALL WE HAVE A NATIONAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT?

IT is urged by Charles W. Dabney in a leading article in *Science* (January 15) that the government scientific offices and bureaus should be collected into a single department, either one of the existing ones, or a new one, with a cabinet officer at its head, instead of being scattered as at present among various departments, with no logical system. Mr. Dabney thus explains the process by which this curious state of affairs came about:

"The scientific work of the Government is carried on by many agencies scattered through the various departments, the more important ones, however, being connected with the Treasury Department, the Navy Department, the Department of the Interior, and the Department of Agriculture. Some of them are not connected with any department.

"The majority of these bureaus have no logical connection with the departments to which they belong, and an investigation of their origin is necessary in order to find out how they became attached to the several departments. It usually came about in this way. Some government official became deeply interested in a certain line of scientific work bearing upon the development of the country. After agitating the matter for several years he finally secured an appropriation from Congress authorizing the investigation to be made in the department with which he was connected. Either the originator or some other friend of the scheme was put in charge of the work, and if it proved beneficial it received increased appropriations from year to year, and finally grew to be a great bureau. This method has led to some strange connections. It was in this way that the Coast Survey, the Commissioner of Navigation, the Marine Hospital Service, and the Life-Saving Service came to be placed under the Treasury Department, while the Navy Department controls the National Observatory, the Hydrographic Office, and the Nautical Almanac. These accidental connections, once established, have usually been kept up, and so far, altho they are often as disadvantageous as they are illogical, a majority of the bureaus have remained in the departments where they originated."

The rational plan, according to Mr. Dabney, would be to have an eminent scientific man at the head of all our scientific work, just as we have, or are supposed to have, a financier at the head of the Treasury Department and a lawyer as Attorney-General. He says:

"A rational classification of these government scientific agencies would begin with the National Observatory and the Nautical Almanac, which locate our planet in space and our country upon the globe, and supply our mariners with the data by which to sail. Next would come the Coast and Geodetic Survey, which determines the coast and boundary lines of the country and its chief heights and geographical positions. Following this would come the Geological Survey, which is charged with 'the classification of the public lands and the examination of the geological structure and resources of the national domain.' The Weather

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Bureau, whose duty it is to investigate our climate, and especially its relations to agriculture and other industries, would naturally come next. This would be followed by various agencies for studying the fauna and flora and determining the life zones, such as the Biological Survey, the divisions of Entomology and of Botany, and the National Museum, including the National Herbarium.

"The great economic applications of the principles elucidated by these surveys would be carried out by another group of bureaus, like the Forestry Bureau, the Agricultural and Horticultural Bureaus, and the Fish Commission. These, in turn, would be followed by other agencies organized for the purpose of investigating great economic problems, such as the forage interests of the country, the irrigation question, the industries of the arid region, and so on. Finally, the new department should include a great statistical agency, such as the proposed permanent census bureau. Statistics, showing the products of natural forces and the results of the people's work along all lines of endeavor, form the basis of all economic science, and would be needed, therefore, in connection with the work of the bureaus above mentioned. Many of them would have to assist in collecting these data. There must, therefore, be the most intimate cooperation between the agencies of the Government for the exploitation of resources and the promotion of industries, and the census bureau which measures the one and counts the results of the other."

As an additional argument for the change, Mr. Dabney notes that there is now a very wasteful duplication of work along many lines. We have, for instance, three distinct agencies for measuring the land of the country, four hydrographic offices in as many departments, and five separate chemical laboratories. Three departments have been engaged recently in studying the earth's magnetism, and three distinct branches of the Interior Department are engaged in irrigation work. Statistics are collected indiscriminately by nearly all departments. Says the author:

"This duplication is the necessary result of the lack of efficient organization. Bureaus for doing the same or closely related things have been attached to many of the departments and have remained there. Congress has been liberal to them, and they have extended their work until many of them now overlap each other. This overlapping of work is not so bad, however, as the almost total absence of cooperation. Since the different bureaus are under different secretaries, there is no way to enforce cooperation."

The remedy, says Mr. Dabney, is a general coordination of the government scientific work. The only question is regarding the means of its accomplishment. An important step has already been taken, namely, the placing of the officers and employees of the scientific bureaus in the classified civil service, which takes them all out of politics. Of the steps to follow, Mr. Dabney says, in conclusion:

"No revolutionary proceedings are advocated. The policy should be to transfer the different scientific bureaus or surveys to one department, as opportunity offers, or as the secretaries now having charge of them find it expedient to recommend it. Let Congress once adopt a fixed policy with regard to this matter and establish it in the good opinion of the people of the country, and the rest would follow in good time. A great new department of science would thus be the result of natural development rather than of revolution, and the reorganization and coordination of the work would in the end be accomplished without injury to any scientific investigations now in progress.

"It is really a wonder that our Government has accomplished so much excellent scientific work through the agency of so unscientific an organization. With enormous expenditure of brain and money, it has done a vast deal for the advancement of science, but it is deplorable that so much has been wasted in doing this. We garner the golden grain of truth, to be sure, but we cut our wheat with the old-fashioned sickle, bind it with straw, thresh it with the flail, and then wait for a favorable wind to blow away the chaff. Harvested by these antiquated methods, our product costs us a great deal more than it should, and, what is worse, we lose a large part of the grain. Shall our Government not use the most improved machinery for its work? Is it not time that we had a complete scientific department for harvesting scientific truth? Such a perfect machine would garner—and garner at much less cost—a far larger harvest than the varied cumbrous appliances now in use."

## A WONDERFUL HYDRAULIC DREDGE.

IT is believed by *The Times-Herald*, Chicago, that the problem of rendering all large rivers navigable has been solved by the hydraulic dredger invented by Mr. L. W. Bates, of that city, and used by him in making excavations for the new drainage-canal. It is thus described:

"This machine will go through a sandbar at a speed of from five to ten feet a minute, cutting its way through a solid bank and leaving behind it a channel forty feet wide and twenty feet deep. Of course it could not do its work at such an amazing rate as this if it were not for the water which it has to work with. That is the secret of the whole performance.

"In front of the machine are six intake pipes, turned downward. Surrounding each of these is a cylinder fitted with knives, which is kept in revolution all the time, so that the knives cut and chew up the sand and mix it with the water. This process, it should be remembered, goes on all around the intake pipes, and in these pipes the suction of great steam-driven centrifugal pumps is pulling away at the loosened mass of sand and water. It is easy to imagine the result. Great solid streams of *débris* flow in the pipes at a rapid speed. The hydraulic engineers have calculated the speed to a nicety. They know to the fraction of a foot what speed the current must have through those pipes in order to carry the sand in solution.

"Thus the problem of maintaining a channel in the Mississippi River at low water is solved. Where there is now but four and one-half feet of water in the autumn there will be, after a few of these dredges have been put to work, fourteen feet. In two years it is possible to have fourteen feet of water from St. Louis to the sea every day in the year. Five hydraulic dredges will do the work if employed four or five months a year at a cost of $10,000 a month each. This is almost magic—modern magic.

"The significance of this achievement is that the problem of maintaining low-water navigation in all alluvial streams is solved. It is applicable to the Missouri, to the Illinois, to the Sacramento, to the Volga, to the Danube, to the Dnieper, to the Hoogly in India, to the La Plata, to rivers in all parts of the world. It is fair to predict that no invention or achievement since the development of steam navigation has done as much for water transportation upon rivers as this successful application of hydraulics to river-bed dredging will do in the near future."

## A RECOVERED METEOR.

ALTHO hundreds of thousands of meteors fall every year upon our earth, it is seldom that man has the pleasure of holding one of them in his hand, and still more seldom that he can do so a few minutes after he has seen it moving as a luminous object through the air. This experience is occasionally vouchsafed to mortals, however. If we are to credit the account of the Portland [Ore.] *Telegraph*, as quoted in *The Scientific American*, a recent case of this kind happened in Albina, Ore. Says that journal:

"It was shortly after 10:30 P.M. that Mr. Hall started to go to his lodgings. Reaching the corner of Rodney Avenue, he was startled by a sudden illumination of the sky toward the east. Gazing aloft, he saw what at first he took to be a ball from a Roman candle fired from some pyrotechnic display incident to the many processions. As the flaming globe approached, however, it assumed such size that the Roman-candle supposition was precluded. Nearing the earth, the oncoming ball of fire could be seen to be bringing with it a trail of bluish sparks, which left the main body with a peculiar cracking sound resembling the snapping of charcoal.

"Barely missing the roof of a house, the visitant from the heavens took a long, swooping flight, as tho repelled by the

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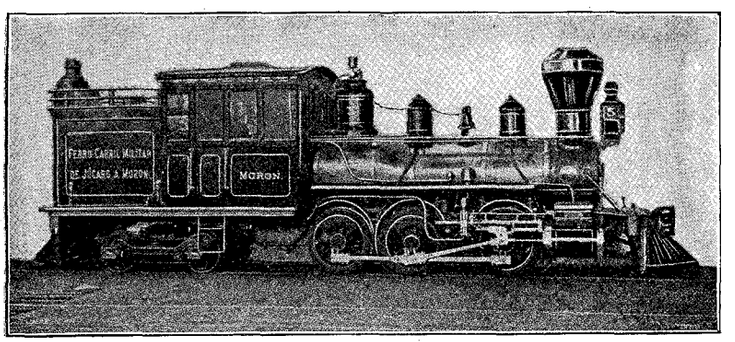
earth's surface, finally alighting in a bed of hardpan, burying itself to a depth of some five inches. The distance from where Mr. Hall was standing to where the meteor alighted was so slight that he had a fair view of that portion of the meteor exposed. From this came a shower of sparks, much the same as tho the component parts of the meteoric visitor contained a percentage of saltpeter.

"Going over to the spot where the fragment of some heavenly body broken loose in space had alighted, he found the meteor still at a white heat. Having no means of handling it, he informed some people there of the phenomenon he had witnessed.

"Hall and two other men then returned to the lot. On the way an empty lard kettle was picked up, and reaching the spot an attempt was made to scoop the fragment of a disintegrated planet into this plebeian receptacle. The piece of the meteor, on being moved, emitted fumes so pungent and nauseous as to drive the meteor-hunters away. After waiting some minutes for the stone to cool, the party again tried to get it into the kettle, but were again driven back by the odor of the gases. A third attempt was, however, successful, and the meteor was borne back to Turner's.

"The piece is of an irregular shape, much resembling a lump of hard clay that had broken loose from a cut and rolled to the roadbed below."

**Armor-Clad Locomotives.**—"Armored locomotives and armored railroad trains, for war service," says *Cassier's Magazine*, January, "have been in evidence, more or less, for twenty years, if not longer, and England in one of her early Egyptian campaigns found them effective equipments for offensive as well




AN ARMORED LOCOMOTIVE FOR SPANISH SERVICE IN CUBA.

as defensive operations in the enemy's country. Since that time, such engines and trains have been under experiment and in actual service with various degrees of success, with every indication pointing to the probability of their becoming increasingly important factors in modern warfare. Sand-bags, which were among the earliest armor used in this comparatively novel branch of military engineering, have been replaced by iron and steel, and the war locomotive of to-day is a decidedly more businesslike structure than its makeshift predecessor. It is well represented in its latest form by the locomotive *Moron*, which is one of two recently built for the Spanish military corps in Cuba by the Baldwin Locomotive Works, of Philadelphia. Both engines have cabs of heavy steel plate, capable of resisting rifle-balls, and the windows and doors are fitted with steel shutters, having loopholes through which the guards can operate rifles or the machine gun which is to be mounted in the cab. The locomotives have a total weight of about 72,000 pounds each. The cylinders are 12 x 18 inches, and the driving-wheels measure 38 inches in diameter."

**An Analysis of Glow-worm Rays.**—The phosphorescent insects have been attracting considerable attention since Professor Langley's demonstration that their light is the most economical in the world. Now it is shown by H. Muraoka, a Japanese experimenter, who publishes his results in a German technical journal, that it possesses some of the properties of X rays, with a difference. Says *The Electrical World:* "The swarms of glow-worms which adorn and illuminate the June night in the neighborhood of Kyoto suggested that they might be made to show properties similar to those of Roentgen rays. Mr. Muraoka found, however, that they yielded something entirely new in the way of light. He placed three hundred glow-worms in a box with a sensitive plate covered with cardboard and metal, and found that an impression was produced where the cardboard was placed on the sensitive plate but not where it was cut away. The cardboard seemed to exert an attractive effect upon the rays somewhat similar to the magnetic analogy of iron for lines of force. Probably the most striking property of these rays is that penetrative power is imparted to them by filtration through paper cardboard, or metal plates. Unfiltered glow-worm light exerts no photographic effect whatever; it behaves like ordinary light and may be easily reflected, refracted, or polarized. The glow-worm rays, or more properly the Muraoka rays, show regular reflection and probably also refraction and polarization, but no action upon fluorescent screens or upon electric discharges. The active light comes from all parts of the body of the worm and penetrates its wings. It will be necessary to wait until next summer for a repetition of these remarkable observations, when it is to be hoped that they will be verified and more thoroughly investigated." It may here be noted that some French investigators claim that all organized bodies give off somewhat similar rays, only in most cases they are invisible to the eye, altho they have penetrative powers and can affect a sensitive plate.

## SCIENCE BREVITIES.

THE wave-length of Roentgen rays, according to *Prometheus*, has been ascertained by Dr. Fromm, of Munich, to be fourteen millions of a millimeter, or about seventy-five times smaller than the smallest wave-length of light. The determination was based upon interference-phenomena.

THE odor of the sweet-pea, according to a contributor to *The Medical Record*, "is so offensive to flies that it will drive them out of the sick-room, tho it is not usually in the slightest degree disagreeable to the patient." It is therefore recommended that sweet-peas be placed in the sick-room during fly-time.

"DR. ANDRÉE proposes to repeat his attempt to reach the North Pole by balloon this year," according to *Science*. "Dr. Knut Frankel expects to accompany him as meteorologist in place of Dr. Ekholm. It is also reported that MM. Godard and Surcouf, two French aeronauts, propose making a similar attempt in 1898."

"A CALCUTTA physician who was attacked by a swarm of bees," says *Popular Science News*, "was severely stung on the hand, head, face and neck, no fewer than 150 stings being afterward taken from his neck. Fortunately he had some ipecacuanha powder with him which he immediately had made into a paste and smeared over the head, face, and neck. The effect was most marked, preventing to a large extent the swelling and pain which invariably follow the bee's stings."

"IT is reported," says *Science*, "that patents for inventions which relate to the production of electrical energy, or in which electricity is in any way employed, are refused in Turkey. There is nothing in the law to warrant any such refusal, and the only explanation afforded by the Turkish authorities is that orders have been received 'from the palace' forbidding the grant of patents for such inventions. The fees paid on application are not returned."

A RECOGNITION of scientific work rarely given by the British Government is the recent elevation of Sir Joseph Lister to the peerage. The new peer is the first medical man so honored by reason of his eminence as a physician. It may be noted that the few scientific men raised to peerages have been made peers on account of work in applied science, never of pure research. Lord Kelvin and Lord Armstrong are great engineers, and the new peer is a surgeon.

ACCORDING to Nikola Tesla, as reported in *Industries and Iron*, "of all conceivable methods of generating electrical energy, nothing in the present nor in the future is likely to compare in facility and economy with the waterfall. Of all methods of generating power, the utilization of a waterfall, he says, is the simplest and least wasteful. According to him, even if it were possible, by combining carbon in a battery, to convert the work of the chemical combination into electrical energy with very high economy, such mode of obtaining power, he thinks, would be no more than a mere makeshift, bound to be replaced sooner or later by a more perfect method which requires no consumption of any material whatever."

THE FLY AS A CARRIER OF BACILLI.—"Hoffman has demonstrated the presence of the tubercle bacillus in the bodies of flies taken in a room occupied by a consumptive," says *The Medical News*. "The droppings of the flies were full of bacilli, which were shown by experiment to be fully virulent. Coppen-Jones has proved by means of chromogenic bacteria that infection can be and actually is carried, not only in the bodies of flies, but also by their feet. In one experiment cultures of the bacillus prodigiosus were mixed with tuberculous sputum. Flies which had been in contact with this mixture were permitted to walk across the surface of sterilized potatoes. In forty-eight hours numerous colonies of the bacillus prodigiosus were visible."

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# THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

## REVIVALS AND REVIVALISTS.

UNDER the leadership of Dwight L. Moody, a number of evangelists, including "Sam" Jones, George R. Stuart, Thomas Harrison, William Patterson, and Francis Murphy, have been holding meetings in Boston to arouse the churches to a concerted effort in awakening the people. Boston is by no means alone in this respect. In New York similar meetings are under the general management of Dr. A. C. Dixon; in Philadelphia, Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman is supervising meetings in many churches on a somewhat different plan; in Brooklyn, Doctors Gregg, Banks, Meyers, and Dixon are holding union meetings, Dr. Chapman aiding; and in Chicago, a large meeting of pastors has been held to arrange for a similar campaign.

In Boston the revival efforts have elicited from some of the ministers of the "liberal" school open antagonism, and to a greater or less extent the entire subject of revivals is being passed in review by the religious press.

One of the antagonistic utterances in Boston was the following by Rev. Thomas Van Ness:

"Revivalists take no account of heredity nor of nature. They ignore the fact that nature never forgave sin. Tens of thousands of agonized prayers will not do that. Teaching that atonement for all past sins can be obtained simply through the blood of Christ is wrong. The sooner this is brought out in all bareness and nakedness the better for men."

*The Christian Advocate* (New York, Meth. Episc.) quotes this and replies at some length, saying among other things these:

"In the foregoing he shows that neither does he know what the Christian doctrine of salvation is, nor perceive the distinction between the natural and the penal consequences of sin. To speak of nature as forgiving sin is to use language without discrimination. No one, so far as we know, ever held the doctrine. Every act has specific natural consequences. These, unless counteracted by natural law, always follow, regardless of the moral state of the perpetrator. . . .

"The Unitarians may attack genuine revivals with whatever vigor they can command. They speak evil of things that they understand not; and tho when they made their grand *coup d'état* they took every Congregational church, with one exception, in Boston, the various denominations believing in and seeking genuine revivals have gained to such a degree, in Boston and vicinity, that there are more evangelical Christians therein than there are Unitarians who can in any proper sense of the word be called communicants of that body, in the United States.

"They comfort themselves in this state of affairs by affirming constantly that they are leavening the churches. It would be a disaster if they did, for the churches would be struck with the same kind of death which the original leaven has experienced. Every prosperous Protestant church aims to secure a state of feeling which has never existed and never can exist in the absence of clear views, strongly and lovingly preached, of the doctrine that 'God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whoso loved believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life;' and that He was set forth to be a propitiation, that God 'might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.'"

*Zion's Herald* (Boston), also a Methodist organ, has on the other hand some sharp criticism of the evangelists' methods in Boston. It says:

"Is the Christian Church apostate? So it must seem to the readers of the daily press of this city. Evangelist Jones at the People's Temple pours himself out in contemptuous speech, severest sarcasm, and vulgar wit in condemnation of the membership of the Christian churches. His utterances grieve and shock us beyond measure. . . .

"We regret to see that Mr. Moody is also deeply tinged with pessimism concerning the ministers and churches; he, too, is very severe in his characterization of both. In his estimate of the Christian Church, its life and work, he is unconsciously but wofully mistaken. We yield to no one in appreciation of Mr. Moody and the great work that he has achieved in the past; but we have noted with deep regret a gradual transformation in him. His theology and philosophy, his standard of measurement for the minister and church, have gradually become more inadequate, exclusive, and medieval. With Evangelist Jones, who declares that he lingers about Sinai, Moody has gone back to Judaism; both are in the thrall of legalism rather than grace, forgetting that 'the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.' The church was never so much Christian as today, even in this very Boston and throughout this grand Commonwealth. The spirit and mind of Christ never pervaded and controlled our communities as at this very hour. But neither Mr. Jones nor Mr. Moody apprehends it. The Kingdom of God is not coming in their way, 'with observation,' and so they fail to perceive it."

Speaking of these same two evangelists *The Christian Leader* (Boston, Unitarian) has this to say:

"Were we to make an estimate of Mr. Moody by measuring the theology which reporters attribute to him, or which they reflect, we could say far more in complaint than in approval. Some of the statements attributed to him must make the chairs of even conservative Princeton stare. In truth, nothing could be more effete, more uncritical, more in evidence of his being a generation behind the age even of his own school, than are Mr. Moody's notions of the Bible and its teachings. But great multitudes follow him. His sincerity, earnestness, and high purpose are unmistakable. By means which we could never use, he is nevertheless doing his Master's work.

"As for Sam Jones, we should think better of him if he left off the Bowery 'Sam' and took his biblical name—Samuel. Just think of 'The First and Second Books of Sam!' Unmistakably his buffoonery at times lightens up with a dash of genuine wit. If, however, he lifts the pit by meeting it halfway, and if sincere in his method, which we have no right to question, we must judge him by results."

Writing on the general subject of "Revivals; How Helped or Hindered," Rev. Dr. Theodore L. Cuyler (Presb.) tells of the pastor of "a certain frigid church in one of our cities," who inaugurated a revival by calling his officers together night after night in his study for prayer and confession. Dr. Cuyler continues:

"The pastor and church officers that I am speaking of intensely desired and hungered for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit. They did not send off for any man to come and impart a blessing; they *went straight to God*. After the revival began, they cooperated with the Holy Spirit by zealous personal effort; the divine and the human worked together.

"There is often a strong temptation to pastors and churches to shirk their own responsibility, neglect their own duty, and to send off after somebody to come and do their work for them. The pastor thinks that perhaps a new voice may wake up the sleeping souls in his parish, and his officers suggest that some novelty may draw the people out, and, accordingly, some itinerant or evangelist is sent for. I am the very last man to speak disparagingly of any earnest, faithful soul-winning evangelist on whose labors the Almighty has already set the seal of His approval by blessing his labors. But there are not Moodys and Sankeys and Chapmans and Whittles enough to supply this whole nation. And if there were, has not every pastor the responsibility laid on him to preach, pray, and toil for the salvation of souls; and shall he not have the joy and delight of doing it? The idea has become quite too current that the business of a pastor is to prepare sermons, visit his flock, console the sorrowing, comfort the sick, and bury the dead; but if souls are to be converted then somebody must be sent for whose profession it is to convert people! If this wretched notion were to prevail generally, no young man of brains and godly heart would ever enter the ministry. Surely if no itinerant preacher can import a new Gospel or a new Savior, or another Holy Spirit than the one that is promised to the prayer of faith, why should a zealous pastor and his church officers look anywhere else than *heavenward?* Sometimes it may be wise to invite a brother minister or a discreet evangelist to aid in revival work;

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but commonly a minister had better sow his own seed and reap his own harvest. Everything that tends to diminish our sense of personal responsibility and our dependence upon God is an effectual hindrance to a revival.

"Another serious hindrance is what may be called *almanac* piety. A 'Week of Prayer' is appointed for the early part of the year; and when that week is made a season for earnest praying and is followed up with earnest working, it has often produced glorious results. But in too many churches the praying which begins in that week *ends* with that week. Then it becomes a solemn farce."

## THE INTEGRITY OF THE BIBLE.

THE course of lectures on the Bible as literature delivered by Dr. Lyman Abbott in Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, during the present season, has called forth much comment in the religious press, adverse and otherwise. Among the papers which have taken strong exceptions to Dr. Abbott's views is the New York *Observer*. In an editorial on "The Battle for the Bible," it thus expresses itself:

"Some of the curious assumptions of these lectures deserve a fuller reference later. It may be sufficient just now to ask this simple question: What sort of a verdict on these talks would be rendered were the case left in the hands of a jury of intelligent men possessed not only of ethical instinct, but as well of spiritual sensibility, who were yet, if we may conceive of such a thing, utterly without preconceptions for or against the Scriptures? We can hardly doubt that such a jury would decide that the Abbott views left for us a Bible which was hardly more than a Homer, something better than a Shakespeare, inspired about as much as Milton, and inspiring simply to the degree in which, from somewhere else, its readers might be enabled to bring to it a hope which was not in it, and an interpretation that was not there.

"Naturally, such a lowering of the valuation of Scripture has aroused the friends of the Bible in Brooklyn to vigorous speech in its defense. While some are with mistaken judgment endeavoring to mediate between the radical and the evangelical positions on these crucial questions, others, such as Drs. Gregg and Fox, are forcibly, by careful argument, defending the integrity and authority of the Holy Scriptures. Thus has resulted at our very doors a pitched battle for the Bible as God gave it, and as man needs it. And it should be remarked that this is not merely a contest about the Bible, but a battle for the Bible itself. It is not so much a question as to how much Bible we may have left us, as it is a struggle to decide whether or not we shall have any Bible left at all. The integrity of the total scriptural system is assailed. Under the plea that the Bible is not a homologous book, but a heterogeneous library, its volumes are scattered to the four winds. The continuity and symmetry of the whole thing are denied in the interest of a critical method which suggests the ghastly scenes of the dissecting-room rather than the perceptional powers of a prophet elevated to a mount of spiritual vision.

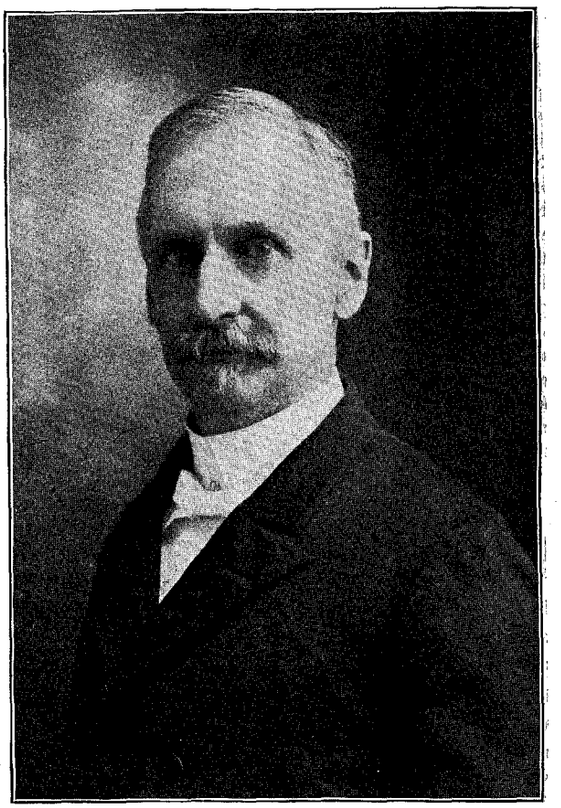
"It is well that the people of Brooklyn should clearly perceive what the question at issue is, and not allow themselves to be hoodwinked by the *ex-parte* arguments of a subtle Unitarianism which does not dissect the Bible for nothing, but with the ulterior purpose of removing from it its very heart. For it is not without significance that many of the allies of this new, yet old, crusade against the integrity of the Bible are Unitarians. This is just what we should expect. Theologic teachers, who have the scantiest sympathy, if any, with supernaturalism, will, of course, applaud when Scriptural evangelicism is wounded in the house of its friends.

"The question then for Brooklyn is whether it will allow its Bible to be dismembered among the schools. If it does, it will certainly have no Bible left. A portion to each would be in this case a portion for none. A dissected Word is no Word at all, but only a mutilated corpse. Brooklyn can certainly not afford to exchange its honored name of the City of Churches for the title of the City of Bibles, where each man has a Bible of his own, and hence no Bible at all."

THE boy King of Spain has subscribed toward the Roman Catholic cathedral which is being erected in Westminster.

## PROFESSOR CURTISS DEFENDS HIMSELF.

PROF. SAMUEL IVES CURTISS, of the Congregational Seminary in Chicago, devotes nearly two pages in *The Interior* (January 7) to defending himself against the strictures made by the editor of that journal (see LITERARY DIGEST, January 16) upon the professor's article in *The Biblical World*. Professor Curtiss thinks that the extracts made from his article, and reproduced in our columns, do not, aside from their context, properly represent his views, nor does the construction placed upon those extracts by the editor of *The Interior*. By way of



PROF. SAMUEL IVES CURTISS.

preface, he describes the dilemma that confronts the Old-Testament scholar nowadays. "If he acknowledges any of the modern critical positions as true, he is in danger of being misunderstood, and, either through a wilful or an unintended perversion of his views, of doing an injury which he could not foresee. If he denies those critical positions which are clearly established, either through policy or through ignorance, he is in danger of retarding the cause of truth." There are but two courses open to such a scholar, either to deny the validity of the results of modern criticism, or to see how they can fit into a theological system. The professor is unable to adopt the first and has adopted the second course. He then proceeds to define his views on Old-Testament prophecies as in thorough harmony with the traditional views of the inspiration of the Scriptures. Before giving his views, we quote what the professor says toward the close of his article on his own personal experience:

"I make no claims to superior wisdom, altho I know something about this subject, having studied it for twenty years, having been present at the trial of Prof. W. Robertson Smith, having known almost every Old-Testament critic of prominence on both sides of the ocean, either personally or otherwise, and as a private pupil of Professor Delitzsch for four years and intimate with him until his death, having witnessed the anguish of his struggles before he declared himself an adherent of the modern critical views. I have felt something of the same anguish, have been

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troubled for the ark of God, and have thought that as a champion of traditional views I could steady it. I must confess that very gradually, but slowly, during many years I have come to the modern critical position, and have found through it a satisfactory view of Scripture, as God's revelation to man through man, and an assurance of its divine character, which I have never had before. I fear no attacks of critics, for they can not disprove the divine character of the book, any more than scientists can disprove that the sun is the source of light and heat."

Concerning one of these results of criticism which have conquered his adherence, Professor Curtiss speaks as follows:

"One of the most important results of critical study is, that the prophet was primarily a preacher, who addressed the men of his time with reference to their sins, and whose utterances were with respect to the historical situation of the people. This is a principle which as I have implied—not to mention Germany—is undoubtedly held by the great majority of Old-Testament professors in the leading seminaries of the Congregationalists and Presbyterians in Great Britain and America. . . . Concretely stated, the prophet had an audience to whom he spoke with reference to the history of his times. Preaching was his great work; foretelling future events was simply subsidiary. All prophecies, so far as we know, had some historical occasion, just as we may believe that every psalm grew out of some personal or national experience. Now, while the application of this principle to an interpretation of the prophets might seem easy, and scholars are charged with lack of clearness and precision of statement, because there is so much misunderstanding, the fact is, that the man who has been in the habit of employing the traditional interpretation of prophecy finds it hard to understand the historical mode of interpretation. The average veteran interpreter feels about as much impatience with the modern critic as I did with a boy of five, who witnessed some of my first failures in trying to ride a wheel. He told me just how to do it, but I could neither apply his directions nor my own knowledge. Naturally enough I felt like blaming somebody."

Professor Curtiss writes that his article in *The Biblical World* was simply the application of this generally accepted historical principle to a particular passage—the prophecy regarding the servant in Isaiah lii. 13; liii. He proceeds as follows:

"I maintain that this section finds its fulfilment only in Jesus Christ and in the conversion of the Jews as a people in the time to come. I see in it, as clearly as any traditionalist, the vicarious sufferings and death of Jesus Christ and the triumphs of the Gospel. I hold that it could not have been written without the inspiration of the divine Spirit, who designed that in it the work of Christ should be clearly prefigured. Now, while this is true, I consider that its author was doubtless as ignorant of its full import as Mary was of the clear views which the Apostle John presents in his gospel with reference to the Deity of the babe which lay in her bosom. But neither the incomplete knowledge of Mary nor of the prophet can in any wise affect the fact at issue as finally revealed."

He then, for the sake of illustration, applies the historical principle already enunciated to Isaiah's "famous trilogy of Messianic utterances" (vii. 14–17; ix. 2–7; xi. 1–9) with the following results:

"I suppose no Old-Testament professor of any standing will deny that Is. vii. 14 has a historical background. If King Ahaz had been obedient there is no evidence that it would have been uttered. An examination of the passage will show that it can not be torn out of its historical connection. Now, while I believe the Spirit of God designed that this passage should find its fulfilment in the birth of Jesus Christ, I can not doubt that Isaiah expected the child to be born soon in the time of the Assyrian oppression. He says that the child shall eat butter and honey, when he knows to refuse the evil and choose the good (Is. vii. 15), because on account of the Assyrian invasion the remnant of the people will have only butter and honey to eat, since the land will have grown up to thorns and briers (vss. 20–25). In this Isaiah seems to think the child will be born soon, for he says:

"'Before the child shall know to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings thou art in terror, shall be forsaken."

"Delitzsch remarks on this passage:

"'At the time when he will understand aright what is good and bad, he will eat only thickened milk and honey; and this fact had its reason in the desolation of the whole of the old territory of the Davidic kingdom which will precede his maturer youth, when he would choose other kinds of food if they were to be found. Consequently the birth of Immanuel in the vision of the prophet occurs in the interval between the present time and the Assyrian oppressions, and his earliest childhood runs parallel with the Assyrian oppression.'

"Just as Isaiah hoped for a speedy coming of the Messiah, so Paul hoped for a speedy coming of Christ, for he says of it:

"'Then we that are alive, that are left, shall together with them be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord." (1 Thess. iv.17. Cf. the comment of such a conservative scholar as Fausset.)

"As regards ix. 6, I do not maintain that it was uttered with reference to any actual Davidic prince in the time of the Assyrian oppression. I believe that the Holy Spirit led Isaiah to utter this prophecy with reference to the birth of Jesus Christ, but I find no evidence that he had a New-Testament conception of the Messiah."

On another point of the criticism made against him Professor Curtiss writes:

"I entirely reject the interpretation put on my words implying that New-Testament writers were in error regarding Old-Testament prophecy, and that they deliberately employed false premises in order to make a popular argument, besides employing false etymology. I do claim that both the Jews and the New-Testament writers knew nothing about scientific exegesis. But I think it most remarkable, considering the vagaries of the Jewish mind in the matter of interpretation, that there are so few evidences of such exegesis in the Evangelists. I can only account for the comparative absence of this element by believing that in what they wrote they were moved by the Holy Spirit."

An editorial rejoinder to this article appears in *The Interior*, January 14, and a second and final reply by Professor Curtiss will appear, we are informed, in the same paper January 28.

## BAPTISTS AND CLOSE COMMUNION.

REV. DR. P. S. HENSON, of Chicago, feels called upon, in view of the "hue and cry so widely raised" against the attitude of the Baptists concerning communion, and in view of the "obtuseness of comprehension" and "persistence of misrepresentation" of that attitude, again to clearly define it. He does so as follows (*The Standard*, Chicago):

"It is constantly charged, and doubtless honestly believed, by a very large proportion of our pedobaptist brethren, that we have hedged about the Lord's Supper by restrictions such as other denominations do not impose—restrictions unwarranted by Scripture and offensive to Christian feeling; when in point of fact we differ not a whit from others as to the conditions precedent to communion as set forth in the Scriptures, nor have we ever presumed to impose any restrictions of our own devising. We utterly repudiate the exercise of any legislative function on the part of the church. It is not ours to make laws, but simply to obey them, for 'one is our Master, even Christ.' 'He openeth and no man shutteth.' It is not our province to prescribe regulations for another man's conduct, but simply for ourselves to follow the divine prescription as God gives us light to see it. According to our understanding of the Scriptures we should not feel warranted ourselves in coming to the Lord's table without having believed upon the Lord to the saving of the soul, and having confessed that faith in the ordinance of baptism. We regard this latter as the symbolic expression of the soul's entrance upon a new life through the gateway of the grave, and therefore this ordinance is performed but once. The Supper we consider as the symbolic representation of the sustenance of the new life, and therefore it is statedly repeated all along the Christian's pilgrimage. We insist that logically and theologically the ordinance that symbolizes the beginning of the new life ought to precede the ordinance that symbolizes its sustenance, and therefore we have never felt at liberty to invite or encourage those who have never been baptized to partake of the Lord's Supper. And yet we have never

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felt it incumbent upon us to erect a judgment-seat at the communion-table, or to instruct the deacons of the church to spy out any such as might be present who in their judgment might not be ceremonially qualified to receive the sacred emblems, and to thrust them out or invidiously pass them by. Some years ago a religious novel was launched upon the world by a Baptist preacher, who subsequently abandoned the denomination that had honored him and been calumniated by him. In the novel, which in every sense was a work of fiction, he represented the officers of a Baptist church as passing up and down the aisles and singling out and thrusting out certain pious pedobaptists who had been caught in the act of poaching upon Baptist premises. It would be safe to affirm that such a disgraceful incident never occurred in Baptist history. We content ourselves with the kind and candid statement of our views of the Scripture teaching respecting this sacred ordinance, without undertaking the offensive office of police surveillance of the congregation gathered about the table."

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**General Lee's Religious Character.**—In the thirteenth paper of the series running in *Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly* on "Lee of Virginia," we find the following concerning General Lee's religious views:

"No picture of Robert E. Lee could be complete that did not portray the religious side of his character. It was the basis upon which all else rested. It was the source of his strength, the law of his life, the guide for his every act, and the support upon which he leaned in every trial. Throughout the war almost every military despatch or private letter written by him contained some allusion to his trust and confidence in God. As, for instance, after the second battle of Manassas, he concluded his despatch to the Confederate President in these words: 'Our gratitude to Almighty God for His mercies rises higher each day. To Him, and to the valor of our troops, a nation's gratitude is due.' In his letters to his children noble sentiments, such as these, occur again and again: 'Occupy yourself in aiding those more helpless than yourself. . . . Study to be frank with the world. Frankness is the child of honesty and courage. . . . Never let your mother or me wear one gray hair for any lack of duty on your part. . . . Hold on to your purity and virtue. They will sustain you in every calamity. . . . Never neglect the means of making yourself useful in the world. . . . You and Custis must take care of your kind mother and sisters when your father is dead. To do that you must learn to be good. Be true, kind and generous, and pray earnestly to God to enable you to "keep His commandments, and to walk in the same all the days of your life." . . . I hope you will always be distinguished for your avoidance of the universal bane, whisky, and of every immorality. Nor need you fear to be ruled out of the society that indulges in it, for you will acquire their esteem and respect, as all venerate, if they do not practise, virtue.' The hero whose example he commended to his son for imitation was the old Puritan, Davenport, of Stamford. 'There was,' he wrote, quietness in that man's mind—the quietness of heavenly wisdom and inflexible willingness to obey present duty. Duty, then, is the sublimest word in our language. Do your duty in all things, like the old Puritan. You can not do more; you should never wish to do less.'"

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**Burning the Devil.**—The Salvation Army in New York city recently held a religious service at which "the devil" was burned in effigy. Commenting on this event *The Christian Advocate* (New York) says:

"How can the Salvation Army expect to retain respect and put upon its 'boards' such a spectacle as the burning of the devil in a lake of fire, with preliminary performances such as pulling the head of the devil out of the coffin and, after an address on pride, cutting off the head, and then cutting out the tongue, and so on, until the devil—to use the language of the carver—was cut into mince-meat? Yet this was done in this city last week. It must be classed among the pernicious mistakes of the sincere. It is a descent to the level of the barbarous paganisms of the Dark Continent."

The New York *Observer* refers to the same incident in the following note:

"It is not apparent how much practical good such exhibitions will accomplish, nor quite evident that such furious pursuit of the adversary savors simply of enthusiastic godliness and not at all of carnal vindictiveness. No doubt the devil deserves to be burned, and no doubt he will some day be burned. But while we are told to hate evil, we are nowhere bidden to hate the evil one. We are not encouraged to catch and scorify Satan, but to resist him, whereupon he will immediately flee from us. This may be rather a nice distinction to make, but it seems to be reasonable to suppose that we are not to entertain vindictive feelings even toward the rascally old serpent who enticed our first parents into sin. He is certainly the worst enemy we ever had. But while God can not forgive him, perhaps on the principles of loving our enemies, we might be expected to refrain from bitter enmity against the personal devil. Yet it would be stretching things to pretend that we are required to 'do good' unto this evil one who so persistently hates and pursues us. Analogies can not be pressed too far."

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**Bishop Keane's Removal Resented.**—Rev. Father George Zurcher, of Buffalo, who aroused considerable interest by his radical utterances a year ago in the Catholic Total Abstinence convention in New York city, has issued a pamphlet on "Foreign Ideas in the Catholic Church in America." He reviews the clash of ideas over Cahenslyism, over the temperance question, and over the school question, quoting at considerable length from various documents to show the aggressiveness of "foreign ideas" as opposed to "American ideas" on each of these subjects, and the ensuing troubles. There is not much given that is new, and the apparent occasion for the publication of the pamphlet is the enforced resignation of Bishop Keane from the head of the Catholic University at Washington. At the time of the Cahensly movement, we are told, Mgr. Schroeder, the German professor in that university, prophesied the early removal of Bishop Keane. Concerning the fulfilment of this prophecy, Father Zurcher expresses his mind as follows:

"The triumphant gloating over the blow which struck Keane and the tyrannical threats at Keane's disciples ought to place the friends of American ideas on the offensive instead of the defensive. The blustering braggadacio and rude menaces to degrade the leaders of the American party might emanate somewhat appropriately from Cahensly organs and Tammany chieftains. If the apostles of foreign ideas and their allies are wise they will not celebrate their victory too soon, as was done at Trenton a century ago by the Hessians, who had been hired to plant foreign ideas on American soil with the sword."

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## RELIGIOUS NOTES.

THE new Prussian liturgy has been introduced by 9,114 congregations of the United Evangelical Church of the kingdom; but 63 congregations retain the use of their old liturgies.

*The Christian Endeavorer*, of San Francisco, asserts that three millions of people in the United States labor on every Sunday, as on other days, and that the "majority of church-members are either indifferent to this fact and to the interests of Sunday reform, or are, as is too often the case, themselves Sabbath desecrators."

THE total number of pupils in the famous Sunday-school at Stockport, England, is now 4,834, while there are 238 men and 195 women teachers. This is the largest Sunday-school in the world. Every month the school enjoys a Sunday-evening sermon while the annual anniversary sermon is preached by some eminent divine, irrespective of creed. At the annual sermon in 1896 the amount of the collection was about $2,650.

A NOTE in *The Outlook* tells of a movement which is gathering force in Great Britain, and which has already received attention in this country, looking toward the gathering of an English-speaking, unsectarian religious conference, and for the setting apart of a special day for commemorating the blessings and responsibilities of the English-speaking race. Among those who have already given hearty approval of the plan are Dr. John Clifford, now the most eminent Baptist leader of Great Britain; Principal Fairbairn, of Oxford; Dr. R. F. Horton, of London; the Rev. Hugh Price Hughes, the great Wesleyan preacher; and others equally prominent.

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# FROM FOREIGN LANDS.

## THE LATE FRENCH ELECTIONS.

THE French Senate is composed of two classes of members, life senators, and senators elected for a term of nine years. The election of life senators has been abolished, and they are gradually removed by death. The others are divided into three sections. Section *A* was elected for its first term in 1885, Section *B* in 1879, Section *C* in 1882. Section *B*, therefore, was renewed in the beginning of the present year. Originally each section had seventy-five members. But additional vacancies have occurred through death and other causes, and ninety-seven seats had to be filled on January 3. When complete, the Senate has three hundred members.

The elections of the present year were rendered interesting by the attempt of the Radicals, led by Bourgeois, Doumer, Lockroy, and Viger, to abolish the Senate altogether or to curtail its power. The ex-Ministers just named stumped the country to an extent heretofore unknown in France. Their hope was that the people would rally to the cry of "Income-tax" and "Down with the Senate!" They have been much disappointed. The senators whose places were filled had been divided into 66 moderate Republicans, 10 Radicals, 1 Radical-Socialist, and 20 Monarchists. The most independent calculators give the following figures for the new elections: 66 Moderates, 16 Radicals, 3 Socialists, and 12 Conservatives. The Socialists do not acknowledge that the election has disappointed them. The Radicals hope that their supporters in the Senate will prove to be more numerous than can be determined now. The Moderates are well pleased with the result. As for the Monarchists, they abstained from voting. The agitation of the Radicals and Socialists had been so lively that even the most hopeful Moderates feared a large increase of their political opponents. The *Figaro* says that "a party which, after an unprecedented agitation against the Cabinet, finds only two or three of its hundred candidates elected, has little reason to mount the capitol to render thanks to the gods. Some time will pass ere M. Bourgeois can again figure as the savior of his country." The *Siècle* thinks "the result of the election shows that the country wants neither reaction nor revolution, but is well satisfied with the existing condition of things." The *Journal des Débats* says:

"The Radicals staked the issue on two cards, the progressive income-tax and the revision of the constitution. Both propositions have been rejected by the country. Thirteen of the elected senators have declared in favor of the income-tax, and fourteen for the revision. This is a very small result, considering the immense efforts of the radical candidates. True, they have rid themselves of some troublesome opponents; but on the whole the Moderates have triumphed. The country has been consulted, and has clearly given its voice in opposition to violent measures."

The *Liberté* says:

"The majority of the Senate has not changed its character. The Republicans return to the Luxembourg as numerous as they have vacated it. The country has been appealed to against the Senate; its answer is a most marked demonstration in favor of the Senate. It is still regarded as a bulwark of the republican idea. As matters stand, 220 senators are arrayed against any attempt to overthrow the constitution. This is, after all, the most important result."

The *Temps*, the *Evénement*, and the *Eclair* express themselves in a similar way. The latter journal thinks the defeat of the Radicals is all the more crushing as they have gained little or nothing in the electoral districts which they agitated most.

Outside of France the Republican victory is regarded as a very marked change for the better in French politics. The instability which characterized the French Government is thought to be waning. Thus *The Speaker*, London, says:

"We may, on the whole, be permitted to regret the failure of a movement which would have improved the constitution and the system of taxation alike. But it was full of incidental dangers, and we are not sure that it was opportune. The French people, we think, recognize that a period of rest is requisite after the constant agitations of the last few years. . . . There is plenty of useful work before the Chamber; and the elections at any rate show that the Republic is becoming more and more stable. France requires rest, and she is taking it. Meanwhile, a Ministry which professes to rest on the support of the peasantry is at least less likely to be alarmist and extravagant than a Ministry so conspicuously ignorant of foreign politics as was that of M. Bourgeois, and containing a naval alarmist like M. Lockroy."

The *Kölnische Zeitung*, Cologne, says:

"That Bourgeois himself believed in the possibility of his victory is not likely. It would be very unflattering to his political foresight to think so. The income-tax is not popular among the French, and the revision of the powers of the Senate still less so. The Senate remains unchanged, but it has won a great moral victory, and can oppose the Chamber of Representatives with much more confidence. The French are evidently tired out, politically speaking. They do not care whether Bourgeois or Meline is Premier. Besides, Meline has the approval of the Czar, and the Czar has said that he does not like these frequent changes in French Ministries. What the Czar says goes, and Meline may remain. We must not close our eyes to the fact that the Czar's visit is the main cause of this conservative wave. France has chosen to be led by Russia, and Frenchmen submit to Russia's policy for patriotic reasons. Even the Duke of Orleans regulates his policy as a pretender according to the wishes of the Russian Government. He tries to influence Austria and Italy against the Triple Alliance, the former through his wife, the latter through his sister, the Duchess of Aosta."

The *Handelsblad*, Amsterdam, thinks that the Radicals have, indeed, gained somewhat, but not enough to crow over. The Monarchists have lost much of their hold, chiefly because their voters did not go to the polls at all. But that the seats lost by the Monarchists did not go to the Republicans, is regarded as a danger to the Senate by our Dutch contemporary.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

## HAS EDUCATION IN ITALY PROGRESSED?

ON the mooted question whether Italy has progressed from an educational point of view since the establishment of the kingdom in 1870, a recent article by Prof. Romeo Lovera, himself an Italian educator, in the journal *Die Neueren Spracher*, contains some interesting data, among them the following:

While the statistics of Italy twenty years ago showed a percentage of sixty who could neither read nor write, and were accordingly to be classified as "analphabets," the percentage of these at present is only twenty. This is a striking evidence of the progress made in popular education since the unification of the kingdom. It is true that much yet remains to be done; but when we consider the immense pecuniary obligations of Italy, especially in reference to the army and navy, it must be said to the credit of the kingdom that the Government has been liberal in its appropriations and zeal for education. The present budget is thirty-four million francs per year. Yet the average schoolteacher in Italy is poorly paid and the equipment in many schools is meager. Compulsory education has been introduced for a number of years, but in the country districts it has not always been possible to carry out the word or the spirit of the new law.

On the other hand, the present school system of Italy is sharply criticized, especially by those who lament the downfall of the temporal power of the Pope. Attention is called to the fact that statistics show that in England the number of criminals has decreased in the last fifteen years by 8,000, while in Italy there has been an increase of 13,000 in thirty-two years. As popular edu-

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cation has been entirely secularized, as is the case also in France, the clerical press never tires of pointing to these facts as evidence of the retrogression of true education in Italy since this has been taken out of the hands of the church. According to the present law, no moral or religious instruction can be given by the Italian school-teacher. In this respect matters are even worse than in France, where a certain secular and non-religious morality is a regular part of popular instruction. The Leipsic *Kirchenzeitung* recently reported an address of a prominent Italian writer of criminology, which shows that non-ecclesiastics also recognize in the complete secularization of education a danger to the state. In this address, delivered in Rome, occurred the following passage: "Our present system of education converts the majority of its pupils into enemies of society and wins many adherents for the worst school of social democracy."

That a rampant and socialistic spirit is at work, at least at the universities, is apparent from a riot that occurred in the University of Rome in November in the presence of the Minister of Education, Dr. Gianturco. The socialistic professor Labriola had delivered an address to the students on "The Universities and the Freedom of Scientific Research." The representative of law and of the state, who was present, was then hooted by the students. This was done when the speaker, demanding the full and free admittance of women to university privileges in Italy, criticized the cultus Minister on account of his letter on this subject.

## JAPANESE AGGRESSION.

THE Japanese Empire, by its steady increase in wealth, industrial energy, and power is a source of grave apprehension to the European and American settlements on the Pacific coast. Yet there is no apparent desire on the part of those who regard themselves as threatened to combine against the common enemy. The Spaniards seek to convince Japan that Australia is a much better subject for Japanese enterprise than the Philippines. Our countrymen, who have made themselves masters of Hawaii, do not wish to interfere with Japanese expansion elsewhere, but think the possibility of a constitutional conquest of Hawaii by means of Japanese votes should be made impossible by annexation of the islands to the United States. Commenting upon the utterances of a Dutch contemporary recently quoted in THE LITERARY DIGEST, whose fears are also aroused by the increased emigration of Japanese to the islands of the Pacific, the *Hawaiian Gazette*, Honolulu, says:

"Now Hawaii does not apparently consider Japan as particularly aggressive, but nothing will be lost to Europeans and Americans interested in the country's welfare by stopping to consider the natural result of an increasing Oriental population with Hawaii as an independent nation. We are not in the position of Australians, but may we not be in the position of the Dutch? Hawaii can not stand aloof. As an independent nation it may become slowly colonized."

The people most displeased are the English, both at home and in the Australian colonies. A line of eight steamers, some of the finest of those frequenting the Pacific, was recently established between Australian and Japanese ports by a Japanese company. The Japanese consul at Melbourne made a speech upon this occasion, which has apparently given much offense. The most unpleasant part of the consul's speech was the one in which he referred to Japan as a country which has rights in the Pacific, and intends to have these rights respected. *The Colonies and India* says:

"The consul hoped that no acts of Australian legislation would so irritate the forty millions of warlike people in Japan as to convert them from friends into enemies. Certainly this audacity takes one's breath away. It is nothing but a veiled threat, and that, too, of exactly the character to which men of British blood never yield. . . . And then this pragmatical exponent of Japanese ambition was so very considerate as to say that some day a federated Australia would, with Japan, dominate the Pacific! This is very plain speaking, and should warn all right-thinking Australians of what they may expect. Even these excerpts of ours do not exhaust the audacity—and we may surely add the unparalleled impudence—of the Japanese consul. He was good enough to 'hope' that Australia would come through her present difficulties without any collision with her neighbor in the Pacific. . . . Summed up, the thing amounts to just this—if only the Australian governments will behave themselves, and play commercially as well as politically second fiddle to the Japanese full military band, and act discreetly, then no harm will result, and Japan will not smite the Australian flag from the Pacific. Otherwise the various communities under the Southern Cross must look out for squalls. Sooner or later Japan will make the question of the immigration of the yellow man into Australasia a radical one, and, if things do not turn out just as the Japanese policy requires, threats will follow, and may be succeeded by deeds that will naturally lead to war."

## FIGHTING VALUE OF THE JEW.

IN many countries the Jew is still extremely unpopular, and his enemies excuse their aversion on the grounds of alleged Jewish traits. The Jew, it is said, is sordid; little given to choosing his means of gaining a livelihood with due regard to moral laws; he is ungainly, filthy, and cowardly. Affluence has enabled the Jew to hide many of his obnoxious personal habits, if they ever existed, and modern society is adopting his view that "business principles" must not be confounded with ethical laws. There remains the charge of cowardice, and this is very ably combated in a book entitled "Jews as Soldiers," in which Dr. Paul Nathan explains that the Jew is as willing to bear arms as any other man, if given the chance. We take the following from a review of the book in the *Neue Freie Presse*, Vienna:

"The book contains a list of the Jews which fought against Napoleon I. in 1813–15 in the German armies, also of the Jewish soldiers in the Prussian and Bavarian forces in 1864 and 1866. Not only are the names given, but also the honors conferred upon them. In 1870 the respectable number of 4,492 Jewish soldiers served in the German army, no less than 327 earning the Iron Cross, the most coveted decoration in Germany, which is only conferred for bravery in the field. Prince Hardenberg, in 1815, testified that 'the Jews gave a glorious example to their Christian fellow citizens, not only by their bravery, but also by their contempt for the hardships of a campaign.' When the British Parliament discussed the advisability of the emancipation of the Jews in 1833, the Duke of Wellington said: 'It is said that no less than fifteen Jewish officers were present at the battle of Waterloo. I have certainly met many able and distinguished officers who were Jews.'

"Coming to more recent times, we find that the British regular army has twenty Jewish officers, or nine more than the percentage of the Jewish population of Great Britain warrants. In the militia there are five. France in 1883 had 721 Jewish officers out of a total of 18,409. Of the 25,897 officers in Austria-Hungary 2,179 are Jews. In Italy and France Jews may rise to the highest rank. The result is that many staff officers are of Jewish persuasion. The military tutor of the Crown-Prince of Italy, Lieutenant-General Ottolenghi, is a Jew. In the Civil War in the United States 7,257 Jews served as sergeants, corporals, and privates, also a large number as officers, among them nine generals and eighteen colonels. In the American navy two Jews, Uriah Philipps Ley and Levy Meyers Harly, earned the rank of commodore.

"One of the most interesting tales in the book is the story of Esther Manuel of Hanau, who became a soldier in 1813. She found it very difficult to earn enough to keep her two children (a girl of ten and a boy of eight). She left the children in Berlin and enlisted in the Second Prussian Lancers, was wounded twice, rose to the rank of regimental sergeant-major, and was decorated with the Iron Cross. March 29, 1814, she met her husband in France. He was serving with the Russian army. The pleasure of the meeting was very short, for the next day a cannon-ball

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killed the husband, and the story of Esther Manuel's sex then leaked out. She obtained an honorable discharge and returned to her children."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

## A NEW ASIATIC QUESTION.

IT has been pointed out repeatedly that Russia, whose Government gives least liberty to her people at home, has become the benefactor of many Asiatic races, introducing a degree of order and justice among them which they had never experienced. On the other hand, England, the cradle of modern parliaments in Europe, has been frequently forced by political necessity to support tyranny in other lands. Thus England may be compelled to assist the Ameer of Afghanistan, who is as friendly to the British Government as the Sultan of Turkey was in former years, while the Ameer's subjects hope to rid themselves of his tyranny with the help of Russian conspirators. A correspondent of *The St. James's Gazette*, London, in a long article describes the situation in Afghanistan. We condense his remarks as follows:

Probably for the first time in history a "political situation" is developing itself in Afghanistan. Hitherto the will of that very strong man, Abdur Rahman Khan, has denoted the position of Afghan affairs. He has now reigned sixteen years—an unconscionably long time for an Eastern monarch, around whom, in accordance with the eternal fitness of things, always hover an assorted collection of skilful assassins. Abdur Rahman is generally regarded by Englishmen as the father of his people. At least he is a stern parent. His justice is summary and severe enough. He has been guilty of atrocities beside which those of Abdul the Damned are set light; but that curious lack of moral perspective so characteristic of Englishmen in the mass has led to the condonation in Afghanistan of what can not be sufficiently denounced in Armenia. Punishment is inflicted with relentless barbarity. In the Lataband Pass an iron cage is fixed on the top of a cliff. It contains the skeleton of a highwayman, left in it to die of hunger and thirst. The hand of a reputed robber is amputated in the following rough-and-ready manner: The local butcher is called in. He knots a rope tightly just above the wrist of the criminal, and with his knife severs the hand at the joint, plunging the raw stump into boiling oil. Once a humane priest suggested to the Ameer that operations of this kind should be performed properly by a doctor. He was sharply reprimanded.

If these stern measures were exercised merely in the interests of law and order one might excuse them. The Afghans are a turbulent folk. They need the strong hand, and can not be governed by democratic and parliamentary methods. But what shall be said of the man who uses this despotic power, practises these cruelties, for his own personal ends, to fill his coffers? Certain it is that whenever an Afghan becomes noticeably rich some charge of treason or otherwise is brought against him, involving death and forfeiture of property, or, at the least, such a fine as shall ruin him. Possibly there never was in all history a despotism more complete and cruel than his. The Sultans of old time were at least influenced by their own passions, the women of their harems, their viziers, and sycophants; but Abdur Rahman is above these weaknesses. A man of affairs—cold, stern, calculating, vigilant—he keeps all the reins of power in his own hands. Wo betide the luckless wight who transgresses by a hair's-breadth his commands! Chieftains and viceroys, no less than the helpless Hazara peasants, are "but helpless pieces of the game he plays." Always there have been protests on the part of his subjects against this sort of thing. Generally they have taken the shape of rebellions and attempts at assassination, crushed and punished with merciless rigor. There are many fancy ways of killing in Afghanistan, and the lot of the baffled conspirator is hard. Recently, however, there has come a change in the method of agitation. The protest has assumed a comparatively constitutional shape, and the whole matter is now fraught with the gravest concern to the Indian Empire.

Roughly, the Ameer has a standing army of 60,000 men. They are not particularly well treated or dependable. It has always been his ambition to supplement this force by establishing a system of conscription throughout the country. Thinking the time ripe, he expressed his will to his chiefs a short while ago. They manifested unexpected opposition. A number of them, heads of villages and tribes remote from Cabul, politely but firmly declined to fall in with the arrangement unless there were a *quid pro quo* in the shape of remission of certain taxes. A lioness robbed of her whelps were not more enraged than the Ameer at this; but the protest was too firm and popular to make it safe for him to practise his gentle little ways upon those who uttered it. And so the matter is temporarily in abeyance.

Nobody who knows the Ameer and his people expects that it will remain so. Neither will bend; one must be broken. The issue will, almost inevitably, be decided by force of arms. In any case the result will affect India. If the Ameer triumph, and there be consequently a huge increase in the strength of the Afghan army, a serious position will be created. If, upon the other hand, the recalcitrant chiefs are victorious, matters will become so extremely crooked that an English army will probably have to perambulate the Khyber Pass to put them straight. Any weakening of the Ameer's power would probably involve the loss of his life. Then the fat would be in the fire with a vengeance! It behoves English politicians and Indian administrators to carefully consider, and prepare to deal with, the situation which will be created by his death.

## A NEW CHRISTIAN SOCIAL PARTY IN GERMANY.

THE specter of Social Democracy, which commands more than a million votes in Germany, has aroused an interest in the social problem in the Fatherland not felt in other lands. The matter has become a burning problem that imperatively demands solution. The representatives of the church have in recent years become fully alive to the necessities of the situation and have been attempting a solution on the basis of Christian principles, and by the organization of a Christian Social Party. Such an organization has actually been in existence for some time under the leadership of the versatile court preacher, Stöcker, of Berlin, who has also been the heart and soul of the national German social congresses held during the last six or seven years. Stöcker is, however, a conservative man, and by his emphasis laid on the positive teachings of Christianity has kept out of this alliance those who were inclined to be more liberal in their religious beliefs. This class, under the leadership of the skilful Pastor Naumann, editor of the Christian social organ called *Die Hilfe*, in the last week in November, in a convention held in Erfurt, organized a Christian Social Party on a basis on which the more liberal elements could unite and cooperate. In all 114 delegates were present from the chief ranks of educated Germany. Among these were university professors, such as Sohm and Gregory, of Leipsic, the former in the law, the latter in the theological department, also leading lawyers, historians, teachers, pastors, etc. Four of the delegates were women. The chief question of debate was whether and to what degree Christianity should be officially recognized in the program of the party. After a debate of two days a program was adopted, the leading principles of which are the following:

(1) The party is distinctly a national organization and thus antagonizes the international tendencies of the social democrats.

(2) The party advocates a fierce foreign policy and the development of German trade abroad as of industry at home. It also asks for continuance of the present military system of the country and the increase of the navy, as also the establishment of colonies abroad.

(3) The party recognizes in the Emperor and in universal suffrage the secret of the stability of the empire, and favors the political *status quo*.

(4) The party favors the increase of opportunities for both men and women to secure employment, but warns against the utopias of the Marx theories of communism.

(5) The party urges the leaders of German civilization to take an active interest in the welfare of the workingman and to aid in the betterment of his condition.

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(6) The party favors the improvement of the status of women by admitting her to positions and callings at present closed to her.

(7) The party recognizes that the spiritual and moral life of the people is based upon Christianity, but that this must not be made a party matter, and it declares for tolerance in this regard, and asks for the cooperation also of those who are not pronounced advocates of Christianity.

The party accordingly aims at a solution of the social problem on moral principles which need not be distinctly Christian, at any rate not Christian in a partizan sense.

Naturally the judgment as to the wisdom or folly of this new social propaganda differs according to the standpoint of the various periodicals. The conservatives regard the new movement as only nominally Christian; the liberals as having erred in the recognition of Christianity at all, thus practically excluding from the ranks Jews and others whose deep convictions on the social question would otherwise have caused them to join, but who can not recognize Christianity in any shape or form.

## THE ARMIES OF EUROPE.

AN editorial article in the London *Spectator* has the following characterizations of the armies of continental Europe:

"The vast armies of the Continent, which seem on land so irresistible, have all, like our own small army [the English], their points of weakness, differing in each state, but still well known to those who pass their lives in studying their qualities. The German army is, as a fighting machine, probably the most perfect of all, but, as Count von Moltke said, it has never been tested by retreat; it rests on universal conscription, which sweeps the unwilling as well as the willing into the military net, and it is of necessity commanded by the Emperor, who must take part in the campaign, and who may or may not be competent to choose rapidly among the best plans, or to select the generals most competent in actual warfare. It is difficult even to imagine the total defeat of the wonderful machine, worked up as it has been for thirty years, but its real trial would come when it had to conquer in another and greater Zorndorf another Russian army equal in numbers to itself, and resolved to perish on the field. The Russian army, matchless in numbers and perfect in obedience and courage, is composed of underfed men, who, either from that cause or some special physical liability, perish when in movement in astounding numbers, and once outside Russia have a positive habit of dying. Army after army of Russians has withered away in the Caucasus and the Balkans, and there is no proof that the cause of the evil, be it economy of supplies or corruption in their distribution, or a certain want of cheeriness which is deep in the Slav character, has as yet been removed. The Russian army, irresistible in defense of Russia, is not, as the last war with Turkey proved, equally formidable in offensive operations. The Austrian army, tho splendidly organized, and with perhaps the finest cavalry in the world, thinks in too many languages, has too many kinds of patriotism, and is governed too exclusively by a caste which has often failed in developing enthusiasm in the soldiers it educates and commands. The Italian army is new and untried, it has not the confidence which comes from a history of victory, and its history in Abyssinia seems to show that while it will face anything, its leaders are unaccustomed to separate responsibility, and depend on the commander-in-chief, who may or may not be equal as a strategist to his position. Finally, the French army, with its new and complete organization, its hundreds of thousands of brave men, and its ardent generals, is still embarrassed by certain sources of weakness. The supply departments are still, it is believed, infested with jobbery in the management of the great contracts, the huge mass of officers still includes many who are inefficient, and the Minister of War, General Billot, has recently made a speech to a syndicate of military journals which reveals with amazing frankness some other mischiefs. Very short service does not quite suit the genius of the French people, who, quick to learn and eager in combat, are not equally ready to perceive the necessity of machine-like discipline. It takes them time to learn perfectly to obey, or, as General Billot puts it, we must remember the fact that the temperament of the German nation is more naturally inclined to those ideas of discipline and obedience which are not possessed by our young Frenchmen, so intelligent, so brilliant, but, let us confess it—so giddy and thoughtless. And, while we must ever bless the French Revolution, which has so thoroughly made us men and citizens, I can not help remarking that, from a military standpoint, the Revolution has made the task of the instructors of the army a very heavy one—the task of subjecting to the yoke of discipline men for whom the idea of liberty has become a dogma."

## RUSSIAN SPREAD-EAGLEISM.

WHENEVER an effervescent American patriot, be he a stump orator or a newspaper man, describes our country as immeasurably in advance of all others, and our people strong enough and brave enough to "whip creation," some European is sure to make unkind remarks about "boyish exuberance, due to want of national experience." But nearly every European nation of the first rank is similarly rich in Jingo literature. Nothing, however, can surpass a little book by the Russian General Kirejew, which we find summarized to the following effect in the *Politische Correspondenz*, Vienna:

Russian customs, the Russian language, and the scepter of the Czar are destined ultimately to subjugate the world. Opposition to Russian rule is therefore as useless as it is ridiculous. For the power of Russia is based upon three mighty pillars that can not be shaken: Orthodoxy, Autocracy, and Nationality.

The Russian Church is the only true form of the Christian faith. The union of all Christians will be brought about, but it can not be accomplished except by placing all under the authority of the genuine Orthodox Church.

Russia has the ideal form of government, which is autocracy. True, there are some disagreeable defects, which spoil the symmetry of the whole. For true autocracy has no connection with the unlimited power of the police or with the tyranny of an official class, nor does it limit the freedom of the press to an appreciable extent. In the ideal autocratic state the people are free to express their wishes, so that the Czar may consider them. This the Russians will in time accomplish, but not by a parliament, for parliamentarism must lead to anarchy. The legislative power must remain in the hands of one man, and that man is the Czar.

The third strong support of Russia's power is nationality. Russia has not only the right but also the duty to assist all races related more or less remotely to the great Slav family. Russia must prevent other nationalities from establishing their power in countries settled by Slavs, and must support the Slav in any part of the world he may choose as his abode. The Poles, who are closely related to the Russians, should be restored as an independent nation, if only they will promise to be satisfied with the Polish provinces of Germany and Austria, with, perhaps, the district of Warsaw thrown in.

There is one serious drawback to the extension of Polish and Czechist power. These nationalities persist in the Roman Catholic heresy. But if they will promise to agitate against the Western nations only, there is no reason why Russian influence should not support them in everything they do. May the Almighty guide them rightly in their endeavors to establish the rule of the Slavonian race.—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

## FOREIGN NOTES.

IN European circles there is a marked tendency to overrate our business depression. English papers report the number of men out of work in New York at over 170,000. The well-known French economist, Leroy-Beaulieu, however, thinks we are still a people "overfed with prosperity." The bullion value of the earnings of average Americans may have decreased, but the purchasing power of wages is rather higher now than at any previous time. Industrial products are now, on the whole, as cheap as in European countries.

THE editor of the Jamaica *Post* has been interviewed by an accredited American commissioner—that is what newspaper reporters are called now—with regard to the advisability of annexing Jamaica and other British possessions to the United States, if England consents. The answer was not very encouraging. It is embodied in the following sentences: England would *not* consent. But supposing she did, how would you carry it out? A plebescite of the populations would be necessary, and do you think that the colored people of the West Indies would resign the social equality they enjoy under British rule for the conditions American citizenship would impose? You could not carry it even in the little islands where the question is one of industrial life or death; and in Jamaica the people would not listen to it at all.

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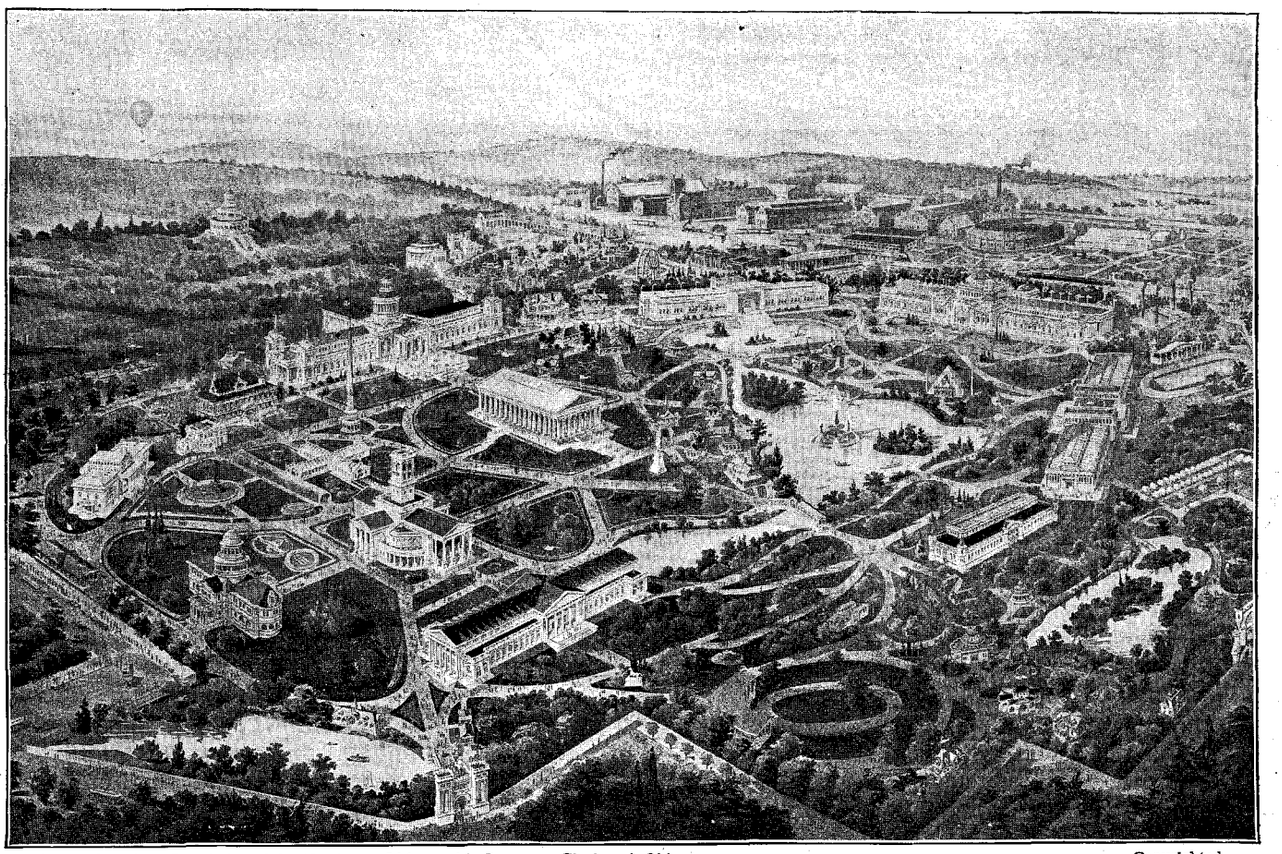
## MISCELLANEOUS.

### TENNESSEE'S CENTENNIAL EXHIBITION.

FOR considerably more than a year work has been quietly progressing on the grounds and buildings on the outskirts of Nashville for the state centennial exhibition, which is to open with elaborate ceremonies May 1. Tho comparatively little has been said about it, it seems to be the expectation of those who have looked into it that the exhibition will be second to the World's Fair alone. Commissioners have been appointed by the governors of all the States and by the mayors of all the large cities, and the Federal Government, besides an appropriation of $30,000 for a government building, has appropriated $100,000 for a national exhibition.



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BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF THE GROUNDS AND BUILDINGS OF THE TENNESSEE CENTENNIAL EXPOSITION.

We quote from a descriptive article by George H. Yenowine in *Harper's Weekly* (January 2):

"The conservative people of Nashville quietly raised large funds, and went to work with a will to have a big exposition, and in less than two years' time a city of what appears to be stately white marble palaces has sprung into existence.

"The beauty and extent of the undertaking have suddenly burst on the community. So quietly and rapidly has the Centennial Association done its work that the buildings are nearly all completed, and their magnitude and beauty will prove a revelation to the general public. . . . The exposition will be the most important of its kind ever attempted in the South. It will, except in size, bear a very favorable comparison with the World's Fair at Chicago. The buildings are not so large, but they are very beautiful. All of them have been honestly constructed, are made of staff, and in the clear atmosphere of the elevation on which they are placed their snow-white outlines can be seen from a great distance.

"Nashville is on very high ground, and this gives the exposition an immense advantage over any of its predecessors.

"All of the buildings are of Grecian architecture. Eight of the most important are complete. These are the Parthenon, for fine arts; the Commerce Building, 500 x 315 feet; the Minerals and Forestry Building 400 x 125 feet; the Transportation Building, 400 x 120 feet; the Agricultural Building, 525 x 175 feet; the Auditorium—seating capacity, 6,000; the Woman's Building, 160 x 85 feet, and the Administration Building, where the executive offices are located. The work on Machinery Hall and the Power-House, Children's Building, Negro Building, and Horticultural Building is being done, and when these are completed the History Building and Live-stock Arena will be pushed, and are to be finished early in the new year. These are to be followed by countless other edifices—foreign, state, and county buildings, society and fraternity headquarters, restaurants, and places of amusement—to be followed finally by many special features, arrangements for startling electrical effects, statuary, and fountains. The most imposing of all the structures is the Parthenon. This is an exact reproduction in outward appearance of the building from which it is named. . . .

"The grounds have been admirably planned. The out-of-door floral display is to be on an extensive scale. The grounds are to be traversed by streams of running water, a lovely lake with lagoon has been constructed, the promenades and groves are carefully planned, and many novel features are promised the visitors to the Fair White City of the South."

The Washington correspondent of *The Evening Post* writes as follows:

"One reason why Congress has been so ready to pass the necessary legislation in furtherance of the project for a world's fair at Nashville in honor of the hundredth anniversary of Tennessee's admission to Statehood, is that the citizens of Nashville have shown themselves so ready and so competent to push their enterprise along themselves. The business men of that city have raised by local popular subscription a half-million dollars, which they have expended in laying out the grounds and erecting buildings, and they have agreed among themselves to continue this policy of self-help till their task is finished. Not only have they

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spent their money without hope of a direct return, but their management has been so economical that the park and buildings now ready represent a value, under ordinary conditions, of more than $1,000,000. The explanation is found in the fact that work was begun in January, 1896, when labor was at its cheapest. . . .

"No one claims that the Exposition of 1897 will be equal in magnitude to the great Exposition of 1893, which cost millions upon millions of dollars, but it is the opinion of visitors from all parts of the country who have studed other expositions that this is second only to the Chicago fair."

## WHEN IS A PERSON DEAD?

"TIME was that when the life was out the man would die." It seems, however, that in these days of trances and suspended animation, the "life" may be out, the heart may stop beating, the breath vanish, and putrefaction set in, and still the person may be alive. The subject of premature burials is a grewsome and agonizing one, and to be raised only for some definite purpose. William Tebb, F.R.G.S., whose attention to this subject was aroused by "a distressing experience in his own family," has a strong conviction that such burials are more frequent than we suspect, and he has just published a book on the subject, reciting various authentic cases of persons buried alive, and urging adequate means on the part of the public to prevent such cases in the future. Here is one of the cases as told by Dr. Roger S. Chew, of Calcutta:

"I *died*, as was supposed, on the 18th of January, 1874, and was laid out for burial, as the most careful examination failed to show the slightest traces of life. I had been in this state for twenty hours, and in another three hours would have been closed up forever, when my eldest sister, who was leaning over the head of my coffin crying over me, declared she saw my lips move. The friends who had come to take their last look at me tried to persuade her it was only fancy, but, as she persisted, Dr. Donaldson was sent for to convince her that I was really dead. For some unexplained reason he had me taken out of the coffin and examined very carefully from head to foot. Noticing a peculiar, soft fluctuating swelling at the base of my neck, just where the clavicles meet the sternum, he went to his brougham, came back with his case of instruments, and, before any one could stop him or ask what he was going to do, laid open the tumor and plunged in a tracheotomy tube, when a quantity of pus escaped, and, releasing the pressure on the carotids and thyroid, was followed by a rush of blood and some movement on my part that startled the doctor. Restoratives were used, and I was slowly nursed back to life; but the tracheotomy tube (I *still* carry the scar) was not finally removed till September, 1875."

Here is another case in which a life was saved by the persistent instinct of a dog:

"In Austria, in 1870, a man seemed to be dead, and was placed in a coffin. After the usual three days of watching over the supposed corpse, the funeral was commenced; and when the coffin was being carried out of the house, it was noticed that the dog which belonged to the supposed defunct became very cross, and manifested great eagerness toward the coffin, and could not be driven away. Finally, as the coffin was about to be placed in the hearse, the dog attacked the bearers so furiously that they dropped it on the ground; and in the shock the lid was broken off, and the man inside awoke from his lethargic condition, and soon recovered his full consciousness. He was alive and well at last news of him. Dogs might possibly be of use in deciding doubtful cases, where their master was concerned."

Several cases, seemingly well authenticated, of self-imposed trances by Indian fakirs are narrated. One occurred in 1889, in Jeypore, the fakir, a Sanscrit scholar, much honored by Hindus, going into a trance in the presence of Chunder Sen, municipal secretary of the Maharajah of Jeypore, and his brother, a doctor, who applied the stethoscope to the fakir's heart without detecting the faintest motion. The account continues:

"The fakir, covered with a white shroud, was placed in a small subterraneous cell built of masonry, measuring about 6 feet by 6 feet, of rotund structure. The door was closed and locked, and the lock sealed with Dr. Sen's private seal and with that of Mr. Dhanna Tal, the magistrate of the city; the flap-door leading to the vault was also carefully fastened. At the expiration of thirty-three days the cell was opened, and the fakir was found just where he was placed, but with a death-like appearance, the limbs having become stiff as in *rigor mortis*. He was brought from the vault, and the mouth was rubbed with honey and milk, and the body and joints massaged with oil. In the evening, manifestations of life were exhibited, and the fakir was fed with a spoonful of milk. The next day he was given a little juice of pulses known as *dal*, and in three days he was able to eat bread and milk, his normal diet."

In view of these many deceptive signs of death, Mr. Tebb and others advocate a change in the laws concerning death certificates, and the establishment of public mortuaries where bodies can be kept without inconvenience or injury to health until the signs of death become indisputable. Commenting on the subject as brought up by the book, the London *Spectator* has this to say:

"Try any of the so-called tests [of death] in the light of human experience, and they all break down. Let us take them in order. A person is not dead because he has ceased to breathe. There are hundreds of recorded cases where no sign of breath could be detected, and yet the patient has lived. Complete stoppage of the heart's action is, again, no criterion. The hearts of men supposed to be dead have given no sign to the trained ear and touch, and yet life has been present. It is the same with the blood. You may open a vein and find the blood congealed, and yet have been operating on a living subject. Reduction of the body's temperature, *i.e.*, 'the chill of death,' is also no test, nor is *rigor mortis* the stiffening of the frame. Not even are putrefaction and decomposition an absolute sign. As is well known, portions of the human frame may mortify in the living. The red color may have gone from the hand when held to a powerful light, galvanism may fail to produce a muscular reaction, and a bright steel blade may be plunged deep into the tissues and when withdrawn show no sign of oxidation, and yet death may not be present.

"What is the lesson to be drawn from the extreme difficulty of pronouncing absolutely whether death has or has not actually taken place—whether, that is, animation may be restored to the body, or whether reanimation is impossible? The lesson, to our mind, is to observe the two old customs which long governed the treatment of the dead—to watch the body till the burial took place, and not to bury till unmistakable signs of putrefaction had appeared. These customs have of late fallen into disfavor and disuse, but, as so often happens, experience is beginning to show that they were based on reason, and not on sentiment or superstition—were, in fact, more truly scientific than the usage that has superseded them."

**Mr. Gladstone's Mother.**—In reproducing (January 23) Justin McCarthy's "Story of Gladstone's Life" from *The Outlook*, we noted the fact that the biographer had very little to say of Mr. Gladstone's mother. A Canadian reader of *The Outlook*, noticing the same omission, has since written to that journal as follows: "When one observes that Mr. McCarthy traces the genealogy upon the father's side back to the close of the thirteenth century and shows how an ancestor, Herbert de Gledstanes, figures as one of the lairds 'who swore fealty to Edward I.,' one wonders why the mother should not be as much as mentioned by name. 'He [the father] was a pure Lowland Scotchman, and he married a Highland Scotchwoman.' Yes, but that woman could also trace her lineage back to a thirteen-century man who won against Edward I. one of the world's decisive battles and secured for Scotland her independence. Anne Robertson was descended in a direct line from Robert the Bruce. Upon reading the scant reference to this gifted and cultured woman, I recalled the remark in one of her son's speeches made to a Scotch audience many years ago, that he had in his veins the blood of King Robert, and I find the record is in Burke. To his mother, I think, more than to his father, Gladstone owes the qualities of heart and intellect which have produced in him one of the world's greatest men."

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## A NEW INDUSTRY FOR AMERICANS.

IT seems like romancing to say that the introduction of a new plant into a region has been able to change it from a backward and unprogressive locality into a progressive one; yet we are told by W. S. Gavey (*The Textile World*, January) that this is what sisal has done for the Bahama Islands since 1889. In his own words:

"Every industry in the islands has been vitalized. The Government on account of the increasing business of the colony has been warranted in establishing a cable between Florida and Nassau. Instead of monthly mail service from New York for seven months of the year there is fortnightly service for the whole year. The postal service has been extended, and the customs' service has been better equipped and made more efficient, and the revenue from customs, without any change of tariff, has advanced over 30 per cent. Real estate has increased in value to the extent of 200 to 300 per cent. The waste lands which were practically worthless a few years ago can not be sold at good prices, and the allotments for crown lands came in so fast that the govenor advanced the price from $1.25 to $4 per acre. Government securities which formerly bore 5 per cent. have been reduced to 4 and are still at a good premium. The educational appropriation has been made just double what it formerly was. This industry will change the Bahamas from a backward colony into one of the most flourishing, and even with the present yield of fiber the Bahamas are not a factor in the fiber market, so great is the consumption."

The moral to be drawn for our own country is plain enough, Mr. Gavey thinks. He says:

"When it is known that the American people are paying for these improvements, and can raise the fiber in their own country, it is still more remarkable that a nation so progressive as our own should allow this colony to surpass them. Florida is admirably adapted for the raising of this fiber, and the cultivation, as previously stated, has long passed the experimental stage, and the variety grown there is the same as the Bahama, both of which furnish a superior article to the Yucatan. In southern Florida, below the extreme frost limit, the sisal plant flourishes on the waste land, and there are thousands of acres which could be bought for a dollar an acre."

The sisal plant is new only so far as concerns its cultivation in our own country. It is a species of agave or century-plant, and its original home was in Yucatan, where, says Mr. Gavey—

"its commercial value has been recognized for hundreds of years. The Aztecs used it for all purposes which it serves in modern times, such as the manufacture of paper, cordage, cloths, and bagging.

"While the sisal plant is a species of the 'century,' it is much larger, having a very short trunk and leaves which grow to a length of five to twelve feet. These leaves are full of fiber their entire length, and it is extracted by separating the pulp and the water from it, by passing the leaves through a machine. The machine consists of a pair of rollers which crush the leaves and press the juice out, which being rich in potash is particularly valuable in the manufacture of soap. The leaves after crushing are passed to a large wheel, with scrapers set on its circumference, and these scrape the pulp from the fiber. It is then washed, dried in the sun, baled, and is ready for use. It can be put to all the uses that manilla can, consequently is destined to become an important factor in the cordage world. . . .

"The plant is propagated by either suckers from the roots or by plants from the poles which the mature plants send up to a height of 15 to 20 feet. These poles bear young plants which drop off and take root, each pole furnishing about 2,500. The plants are set out about 600 to the acre, and several hundred acres are needed to make a profitable return. . . .

"The young plants can be bought for one cent apiece, and the cost of plants for an acre would be six to nine dollars."

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**A Story of Mark Twain.**—The funniest thing Mark Twain ever wrote, according to the Chicago *Times-Herald*, never saw the light. It was a "write-up" for a Denver paper of the opening of a new saloon. Here is the story of its suppression:

"He thought it would be funny to make his account of the festivities bear silent witness to the potency of the free refreshments dispensed. The article began soberly enough, but soon the diction became misty, then the spelling grew confused, and finally the whole thing degenerated into a maudlin, incoherent eulogy of the saloon-keeper.

"It was funny. Mark read it over and laughed until he cried. But the next morning when he eagerly scanned the paper he could not find his work. In an obscure corner he saw a two-line item stating that 'the Alcazar saloon was opened with appropriate festivities last night.' That was all.

"He rushed down to the office and inquired about his article. The managing editor knew nothing about it. The city editor couldn't tell what had become of it. The foreman said he hadn't seen it.

"As Mark was snorting about the 'outrage,' and was running about the office trying to get track of his missing 'copy,' a proof-reader slyly nudged him and said confidentially, 'You owe me a cigar.'

"'How is that?' inquired the humorist.

"'I've earned it,' was the reply; 'I saved your job for you last night. Maybe you don't know how the old man here feels about such things, but he won't have it if he finds it out. He's fired three men since I've been here—just that way.'

"'Just what way?'

"'Why, just as you were last night, you know. Your stuff wouldn't do at all; it was simply awful. I knew if the old man saw it you were gone, so I fixed it up myself.'"

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**Revelations of von Moltke's Character.**—The letters of von Moltke to his wife and other relatives have recently been published in two volumes, and, reviewing the English translation, *The Athenæum* speaks as follows of the revelations made concerning the great general's character:

"It [the book] will surprise many, for it shows that the eminent soldier was very different from what he was ordinarily conceived to be. He is supposed to have been dry and stern, reticent, almost devoid of human sympathies, and a little better than a strategical machine. As a matter of fact, such an estimate is somewhat of a caricature. To the public and strangers Moltke was cold and silent; but to his family and friends he was affectionate, open, full of kindly forethought, and, tho an austere taskmaster to himself, he was full of charity to others. No doubt the poverty of his life taught him to be parsimonious to the verge of meanness, yet he enjoyed the pleasures of life, liked a good dance, and was reasonably fond of the theater and the opera. One of his chief characteristics was great admiration of the beauties of nature; another, fondness for, and kindness to, children. A soldier to the core, he yet shrank from the horrible sight of the battle-field, and felt deeply for the families of those who were wounded or killed in war—at least of the German wounded, for he can not be said to have displayed much humanity to the French."

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THE *Ost-Asiatische Lloyd*, Shanghai, relates that a *Tien-Tsin Hui*, a Natural Feet Society, has been formed among Chinese ladies. Some ladies of the European settlements are pushing the movement, and promise to allow their waists to assume natural proportions, to give a good example to their Chinese sisters. The Chinese Foreign Ministry have been asked to present a petition to the Emperor and the Empress-Dowager, in which the Emperor and his mother are asked to consider the advisability of a decree abolishing the cripple-foot among Chinese women. The Tsang-li-Yamen answered that the Government could do nothing in the matter. China, they said, is a free country, and people who wish to have abnormally small feet can not be prevented from getting them.

WHILE the laws of Great Britain are more friendly to foreigners, especially exiles, than those of any other country except the United States, the people generally act on the principle of the cockney mason who said to his mate: "Say, Bill, 'ere's a furriner. Let's 'eave a brick at 'im!" That this resentment is not confined to the lower orders is illustrated by an anecdote in *Vanity Fair*, with reference to the rumor that Don Carlos, the Bourbon Pretender, will abdicate in favor of his son, Don Jaime. Don Jaime was educated at an English school and one of his older schoolfellows was one day seen vigorously kicking him. Asked what Jaime had done to provoke such treatment, the English boy answered: "He hasn't done anything; but perhaps he'll be king one of these days, and if he is I want to be able to say that I once kicked the King of Spain."

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## BUSINESS SITUATION.

Business failures in large numbers continue to mark the state of trade. *Bradstreet's* figures for the week are "429, or 49 less than last week, 88 more than in the week a year ago, 117 more than in the corresponding week of 1895, 91 more than in the third week of January, 1894, and 127 more than the like week of 1893." *Dun's Review* reports 409 for the week against 373 last year.

**The General Condition.**—"The most encouraging feature of the trade situation this week is the increased demand from manufacturers for wool. The decision of print-cloth manufacturers to curtail the output will emphasize recent sales of the heavy surplus stocks, and promises a better market. To these may be added the increase in the volume of domestic bank clearings, a general steadiness of prices, and the healthfulness of general trade in almost all departments. Conservatism in granting credits and the preference by retailers and others to buy oftener, but in small quantities, continue to mark the course of business as not before for years. Demand is increasing in almost all lines, with few exceptions, altho very slowly. A radical improvement in the near future, based on a slow but healthful increase in the consumptive demand, is, in the absence of unforeseen obstacles, almost a certainty.

"Commercial travelers are reported very generally out on the road, yet the volume of business continues small and collections in many instances are unsatisfactory. The more active demand is for shoes, hats, groceries, hardware, dry-goods, and drugs; yet at such centers as Chicago and St. Louis at the West, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York, and Boston at the East, business continues along very conservative lines. Memphis, Nashville, and Galveston continue their exceptionally favorable reports as to demand for staples. Pacific Coast ports announce unusually heavy orders for merchandise from Alaska and improving trade with China and Japan."—*Bradstreet's, January 23.*

"There is more business, tho not at better prices. It is interesting that almost all prices which change at all are lower than a week ago, and yet business is unquestionably larger. There is larger production, but as yet not as much increase in consumption, and there is larger buying of materials, but at present only because better prices are expected in the future."—*Dun's Review, January 23.*

**Exports and Prices.**—"Wheat, corn, and cotton exports are the key of the financial situation, and during the past week wheat has declined ⅜ ct., and corn ⅝ ct., while cotton is unchanged. The Western receipts of wheat are still small, 581,000 bushels less than a year ago, and for three weeks of January 4,519,719 bushels against 7,606,079 last year, but the Atlantic exports, flour included, were 1,534,715 bushels for the week against 2,366,457 last year, and in three weeks of January have been 5,019,032 bushels against 6,849,648 last year. The price has declined for corn also, altho everybody knows that the heavy exports mean relatively more than the exports of wheat. Cotton is unchanged after an eighth decline, but the continuing large movement from plantations, and the depression of manufacturing here and abroad, do not encourage high prices. There has been a general reduction in prices of cotton goods, which at present stimulates larger buying."—*Dun's Review, January 23.*

"Prices appear to include few, if any, that are higher than a week ago, while flour, wheat, corn, lard, crude petroleum, tin, Bessemer pig iron, and steel billets are lower. Wool remains firm at practically unchanged prices, but is likely to advance if the present demand continues. Leather is also firm and unchanged, as are lumber, cotton, print cloths, pork, coffee, and sugar."—*Bradstreet's, January 23.*

**The Money-Market.**—"In the money-market there is no anxiety, altho supplies of commercial paper are comparatively scanty. But the operations in the sterling exchange market make it clear that foreign operations in stocks for the moment lean toward buying rather than selling. The interior money movement has been comparatively light, tho receipts have exceeded shipments so that the accumulation of unemployed money here increases. The Treasury receipts for the month thus far fall $8,107,119 below expenditures, but a considerable deficiency usually appears at the time of annual payment of interest."—*Dun's Review, January 23.*

**Business Failures.**—"Failures for two weeks of January show liabilities of $8,407,364, against $12,538,617 in fifteen days of last year, $7,509,201 in seventeen days of 1895, and $13,658,990 in eighteen days of 1894. Manufacturing were $3,202,109 against $4,214,569 last year, and trading were $4,982,405 against $7,767,426 last year. Failures for the week have been 409 in the United States against 373 last year, and 65 in Canada against 61 last year."—*Dun's Review, January 23.*

**Canadian Trade.**—"There is an improved demand for seasonable goods among wholesale merchants at Toronto. Collections there continue backward, but failures are less numerous. Lack of snow has prevented farmers from marketing produce at Montreal, and checked trade correspondingly. The outlook is for an improvement. Business at Halifax continues dull and featureless, but the condition of the country roads favors the operator. There are 57 business failures reported from the Canadian Dominion this week, 2 fewer than last week, 5 more than in the week a year ago, 19 more than in the corresponding week of 1895, and 9 more than in each of the like weeks in 1894 and 1893. Bank clearings at Winnipeg, Hamilton, Toronto, Montreal, and Halifax amount to $20,050,000 this week, against $20,697,000 last week, and as compared with $19,667,000 in the week one year ago."—*Bradstreet's, January 23,*

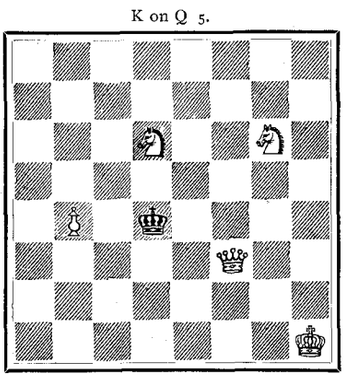
## CHESS.

[All communications for this Department should be addressed: "Chess Editor, LITERARY DIGEST."]

### Problem 184.

Black—One Piece.

K on Q 5.



White—Five Pieces.

K on K R sq; Q on Q B 3; Kts on K Kt 6, Q 6; P on Q Kt 4.

White mates in three moves.

This problem was sent to us with the request that we would give the solution, as it has proved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"Pearl glass" is nothing.
"Index to Chimneys" is nothing.
"Macbeth" with the shape we make for your lamp is all.
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a puzzler of the puzzlers. We believe that we have the solution, but we will give our solvers an opportunity to test their abilities.

### Problem 185.

*(From The Times, Philadelphia.)*

The following position occurred in a game played between Dr. Edward Pick, the celebrated English lecturer on Memory and "Black." It will be observed that "Black" is two Pawns ahead, and his pieces are, apparently, well posted. Dr. Pick, however, by the right move showed that White had the winning position:

White (6 pieces)—K on Q R sq; Q on K 5; Rs on K Kt 7, Q B sq; Ps on Q Kt 2, Q R 2.

Black (8 pieces)—K on Q Kt sq; Q on Q 3; Rs on K R sq, Q B sq; Ps on K R 2, Q B 2, Q Kt 2, Q R 2.

White to play and win.

### Solution of Problems.

No. 181.

We are very sorry that what should have been a treat for our solvers was spoiled because we sent the diagram taken from a reliable publication, and by an oversight did not verify it. We have lost or mislaid the diagram from which we solved this problem, and we do not feel justified in relying upon our memory for the correct setting. We regret that we must disappoint our solvers; but you will have to consider 181 as if it had never been published, until we find the correct position.

G. E. Haldeman, Longmont, Col., was successful with 179.

H. Ketcham, Vergennes, Vt., and J. W. Porter, Panca, Neb., got 180.

### "British Chess Magazine" Problem Tourney.

*The British Chess Magazine* announces an International Problem Tourney. Competitors may send one problem, two or three problems, in three moves. Each problem must be original, unpublished, have a distinguishing motto, and be accompanied by the full solution. The name of the composer must be enclosed in a separate sealed envelope bearing the motto of the problem. Entries must be made for the United States, and all countries other than Europe, not later than June 30, 1897.

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### Showalter.

Champion Showalter has been during the last week playing the "cracks" of the Franklin Chess Club, Philadelphia. He played simultaneously against sixteen of the strongest players of the Club, winning 12, drawing 1, and losing 3, to Shipley, Stuart and Ferris. He afterward won in a match game from both Shipley and Stuart. The third game with Shipley resulted in a draw. He played two games with Emil Kemeny, probably the strongest player in Philadelphia, winning one and losing one. It is the general opinion of those qualified to form an opinion that Mr. Showalter is in excellent "form," and that Pillsbury will have to play some very brilliant Chess to wrest from the Kentuckian the title of Champion of the United States.

By the way, Pillsbury has been playing great Chess recently. He attempted to neutralize the odds of Pawn and move against a very strong player, and succeeded. Any one who has given such odds will appreciate what it means to win, thus heavily handicaped.

## Current Events.

*Monday, January 18.*

In the Senate the Nicaragua Canal bill is taken up and Mr. Morgan makes an argument for it; the monetary conference bill is introduced; the army appropriation bill is passed. . . . In the House most of the day is devoted to measures concerning the District of Columbia. . . . The President transmits arbitration treaty correspondence to the Senate and the report of the deep waterways commission to the House. . . . Judge Locke, United States court, Jacksonville, decides that the Cuban filibustering steamer *Three Friends* does not violate the neutrality laws since it has not been shown that "a state of war" exists. . . . The United States Supreme Court decides that so far as it prevents a citizen from importing liquor for his own use the South Carolina dispensary law is unconstitutional. . . . Bank failures: German National, Louisville; First National, Newport, Ky.; Minnesota Savings, St. Paul.

It is stated that France is discussing the advisability of negotiating an arbitration treaty with the United States. . . . The Earl of Kimberly is chosen leader of the Liberal Party in the English House of Lords. . . . It is said that a British syndicate has received a concession of a million acres of gold lands in Dutch Guiana. . . . The bubonic plague in Bombay is growing worse. . . . The Spanish gunboat *Relampago* was sunk by a torpedo in the Canto river, in Santiago de Cuba, on Sunday.

*Tuesday, January 19.*

In the Senate Mr. Turpie speaks against the Nicaragua Canal bill. . . . The House considers private pension bills. . . . Conferees agree on the amended immigration bill. . . . Ballots in state legislatures assure the election of United States Senators T. C. Platt (Rep.), New York; C. W. Fairbanks (Rep.), Indiana; William E. Mason (Rep.), Illinois; H. M. Teller (Silver Rep.), Colorado; G. G. Vest (Dem.), Missouri; H. C. Hansbrough (Rep.), North Dakota; O. H. Platt (Rep.), Connecticut; J. H. Gallinger (Rep.), New Hampshire; J. K. Jones (Dem.), Arkansas; J. C. Pritchard (Rep.), North Carolina; R. R. Kenney (Dem.), Delaware. . . . A resolution is introduced in the Nebraska legislature instructing United States Senator Thurston to "use his best endeavor to secure the free coinage of silver" . . . . The New York court of appeals decides the Fayerweather will case, distributing $3,000,000 to various colleges. . . . Conventions: Harbor Improvement and Coast Defense, Tampa, Fla.; National Marine Engineers, Inventors and Manufacturers' Association, and American Colonization Society, Washington.

The English Parliament is opened with the usual speech from the throne, and the Government is heartily congratulated on the negotiation of the arbitration treaty with this country; the Irish National Party reelects John Dillon leader. . . . At the opening of the Swedish Parliament, King Oscar expresses gratification at being chosen to name the umpire under the Anglo-American arbitration treaty. . . . The Italian Cabinet decides to dissolve the Chamber of Deputies.

*Wednesday, January 20.*

The Senate passes the New York Custom House bill and the Legislature Appropriation bill; Mr. Turpie continues his attack on the Nicaragua Canal bill. . . . The House discusses the Yost-Tucker election contest from the tenth district of Virginia. . . . Secretary Olney appears for the Anglo-American arbitration treaty before the Senate committee on foreign relations. . . . It is reported that an arrangement with the Administration is completed for the reorganization of the Union Pacific under foreclosure. . . . The Metropolitan west side elevated railroad, Chicago, is placed in receivers' hands. . . . C. W. Dabney, Jr., is appointed chairman of the government board of the Tennessee centennial exposition.

Henry Delgado, New York newspaper correspondent, dies in a Spanish hospital at Havana. . . . The trial of Edward J. Ivory ends by the collapse of the case against him. . . . Rolling-mill employees in Anina, Hungary, attack the gendarmes; it is reported that eight rioters were killed. . . . Lord Salisbury is said to have con-


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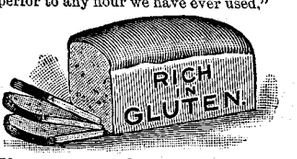


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sented that Venezuela nominate one of the arbitrators under the arbitration treaty.

*Thursday, January 21.*

In the Senate Mr. Turpie finishes his speech against the Nicaragua Canal bill; a certificate of election for J. E. Addicks from Delaware is presented. . . . The House decides the contested case of Yost against Tucker in favor of Tucker, Democratic sitting member. . . . T. Estrada Palma, of the Cuban Junta in New York, issues a statement in which he says the Cubans will continue to fight for independence, and nothing but independence. . . . The German Savings Bank, Des Moines, Iowa, fails. . . . The Fall River Manufacturers' Association plan to shut down two days a week for three months.

An earthquake on an island of the Persian Gulf kills 2,500 people and destroyed thousands of homes. . . . The British Government issues a blue book on the correspondence with the powers in regard to Turkish reforms. . . . The number of deaths for the week in Bombay from the bubonic plague was 470. . . . Details of the massacre of the British expedition to Benim reach England.

*Friday, January 22.*

In the Senate the arbitration treaty is informally discussed because of petitions received; a protest from the Greater Republic of Central America against pending Nicaragua Canal bills is received; the committee on Pacific railroads reports the Gear commission bill. . . . The House passes over the President's veto the bill to establish a new division of the Eastern Judicial District of Texas. . . . At a meeting of the Cabinet in Washington it is decided to begin foreclosure proceedings against the Union Pacific Railroad at once. . . . Judge Fitzgerald, in New York, disallows the demurrer to an indictment for alleged conspiracy against directors of the tobacco trust. . . . The Coast and Harbor Defense and Improvement convention, Tampa, Fla., favors an extension of defenses and the organization of a national defense association. . . . Eighty-three claims of American citizens against Spain, aggregating nearly $10,000,000, have been filed at Washington on account of the Cuban insurrection.

There are reports of sharp fighting in Cuba; the Madrid Chamber of Commerce protests against one of Weyler's orders. . . . The Secretary of State for India says in the House of Commons that stories of the spread of the plague to Europeans in Bombay were exaggerated. . . . Sir Isaac Pitman, the inventor of a shorthand system of writing, dies in England. . . . The Comte de Remusat, a well-known French writer, dies in Paris.

*Saturday, January 23.*

The Senate alone is in session; it clears the calendar of pension and other bills to the number of 130. . . . Papers in the Government's foreclosure suit against the Union Pacific Railway are filed in Omaha, Nebr. . . . Ex-Queen Liliuokalani of Hawaii arrives in Washington. . . . Bills prohibiting football are introduced in the legislatures of Nebraska and Indiana. . . . A blizzard rages in Iowa, Nebraska, and Kansas. . . . Admirers of ex-Governor Altgeld present a testimonial to him; his response denounces Mr. Hanna and claims that Bryan honestly carried Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, and California.

Cubans are said to have sunk another Spanish gunboat. . . . It is said that Emperor William will support the Sultan in his project of a council of finance composed of Turks and Europeans appointed by the Sultan himself, and not, as desired by Lord Salisbury, under European control.

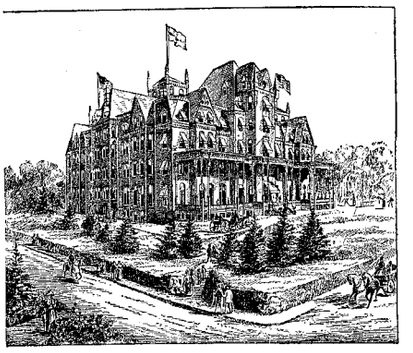
*Sunday, January 24.*

Extremely low temperatures prevail in the Northwest.

Further fighting is reported from Havana. . . . It is reported that Count Muravieff, the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs, will visit Paris and discuss Turkish policies with President Faure.


## An Asthma Cure at Last.

It gives us great pleasure to announce the discovery of a positive cure for Asthma, in the wonderful Kola Plant, a new botanic product found on the Kongo River, West Africa. The cures wrought by it in the worst cases are really marvelous. Sufferers of twenty to fifty years' standing have been at once restored to health by the Kola Plant. Among others, many ministers of the gospel testify to its wonderful powers. Rev. J. L. Combs, of Martinsburg, West Va., was perhaps the worst case, and was cured by the Kola Plant after fifty years' suffering. Mr. Albert C. Lewis, Washington, D.C., editor of *The Farmer's Magazine*, gives similar testimony, as do many others. To prove to you beyond doubt its wonderful curative power, the Kola Importing Company, No. 1164 Broadway, New York, will send a large case of the Kola Compound free by mail to every reader of THE LITERARY DIGEST who suffers from any form of Asthma. They only ask in return that when cured yourself you will tell your neighbors about it. You should surely try it, as it costs you nothing.

HUNTERSTON.

## DR. HUNTER'S LECTURES.

## ASTHMA.

This is a disease of the lungs attended by paroxysmal attacks of oppressed breathing. The difficult breathing is caused by contraction of the capillary bronchial tubes. There is, during the attack, a wheezing found in breathing, a feeling of constriction in the chest, and more or less cough. It breaks up by coughing up a quantity of mucus from the lungs. In some this mucus is light and frothy, but in others thick and heavy and yellowish in color.

Once asthma has taken possession of the lungs, it settles into a chronic disease, and the attacks occur from time to time at intervals of uncertain duration. In some the fits are every ten days or a fortnight, while in more severe cases they may recur every night on lying down or early morning before getting up.

It is a common disease at all periods of life from early infancy to old age, and is more frequent in men than women. There are three distinct classes of cases. First, those arising from fog, dust, smoke, fumes of various kinds, ipecacuanha, the odor of hay, the smell of the stable, etc. Second, those caused by eating foods which undergo fermentation and produce irritation of the pneumogastric nerve, or by sudden application of cold to the body, or excited by sudden and deep emotion, or occurring every three or four weeks. Third, asthma complicating chronic bronchitis, heart, disease or pulmonary tuberculosis.

The appearance of those suffering with asthma is very characteristic. The face bears the sign of distress. The shoulders are elevated, the stomach distended, the tongue coated, and the eyes red and prominent. There is inability to rest horizontally in bed or to walk up a hill. Many are unable to lie down at all during the attack, but are forced to sit bolstered up in bed or a chair, anticipating death by suffocation to end their misery, which is relieved finally by a copious heavy expectoration from the lungs.

Most asthmatics know by their feelings when an attack is coming. The curative treatment of the disease is widely different from the mere relief of the distress of the spasmodic attack. It requires thorough regulation of the entire system and the removal of the patient from all harmful surroundings which excite irritation in the lungs. The air he breathes must be dry and free from malarious impurity. The food wholesome, nutritious, and easy of digestion; the clothing of pure wool and sufficient to protect the body and limbs from any sense of chilliness. The stomach, bowels, kidneys, liver, and other natural functions must also be regulated to put the body in the best condition for exerting the natural healing powers of the system. This being done, the cure of asthma is comparatively easy. By medicating the air the patient breathes we not only prevent the spasmodic attacks, but subdue and heal the bronchial inflammation on which most asthmatic cases depend. The inhaled remedies require to be adapted to the particular form of the diseases and to the condition of each case. Treated in this way immediate relief and permanent cure can be attained in almost every case of asthma. If it be complicated by heart disease, or with tuberculosis, cure necessarily depends on the nature of the heart affection and the extent and stage of the tuberculosis malady. My sanitarium at Netherwood, N. J., affords special advantages for the curative treatment of asthma and other lung cases by the uniform temperature maintained, the medicated air-chambers provided, and the constant supervision of the resident physicians. If for any reason, however, the patient is unable to go to the sanitarium, he can be treated with the same remedies in his own home and have a hundredfold more certainty of cure than by any other treatment known to medical science.

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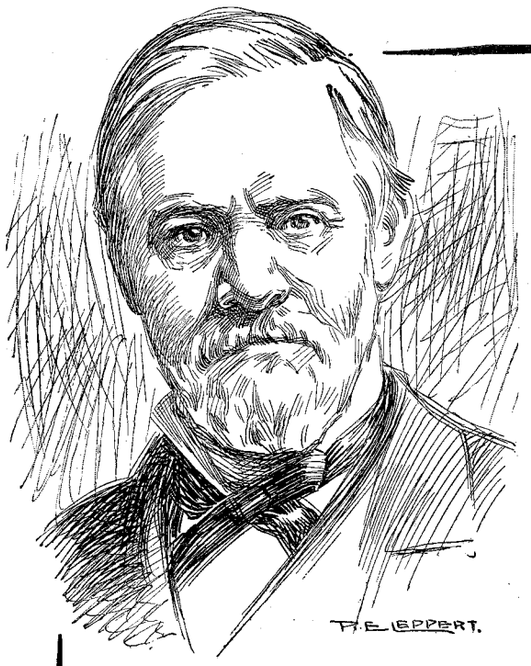


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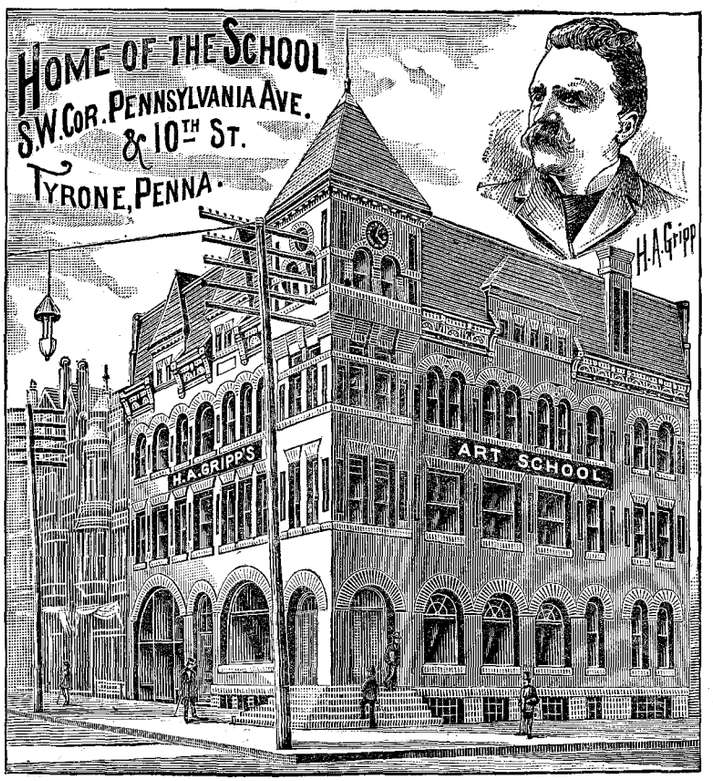


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